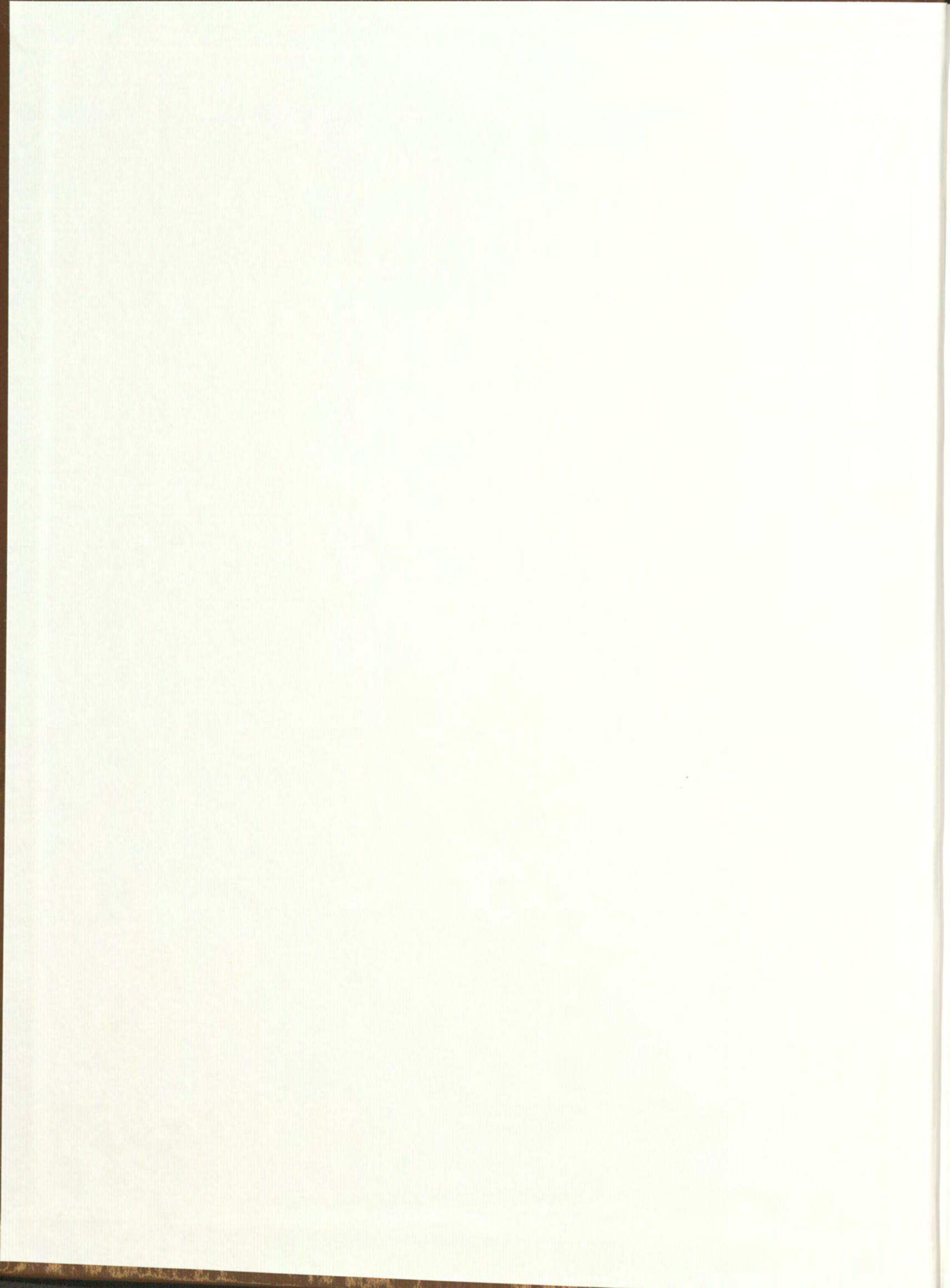


# experience

Entre Nous 2010















# *experience*

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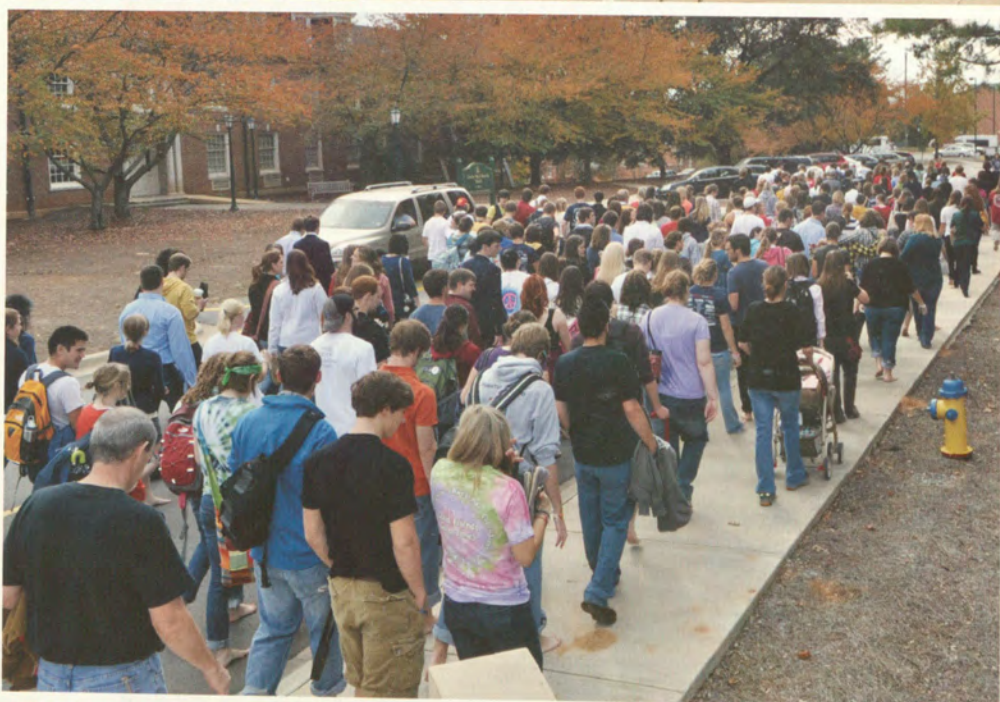
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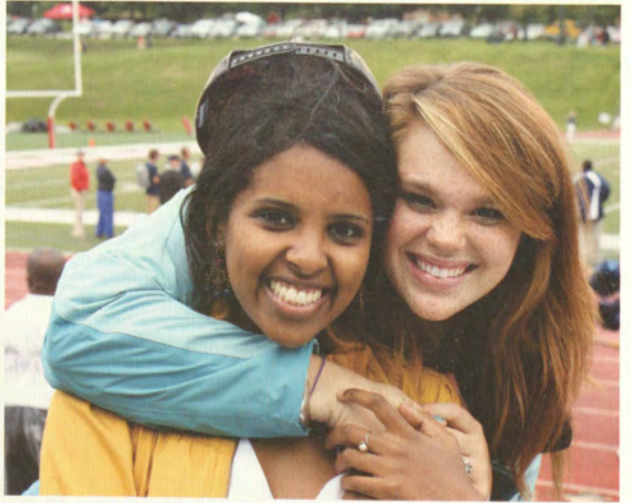










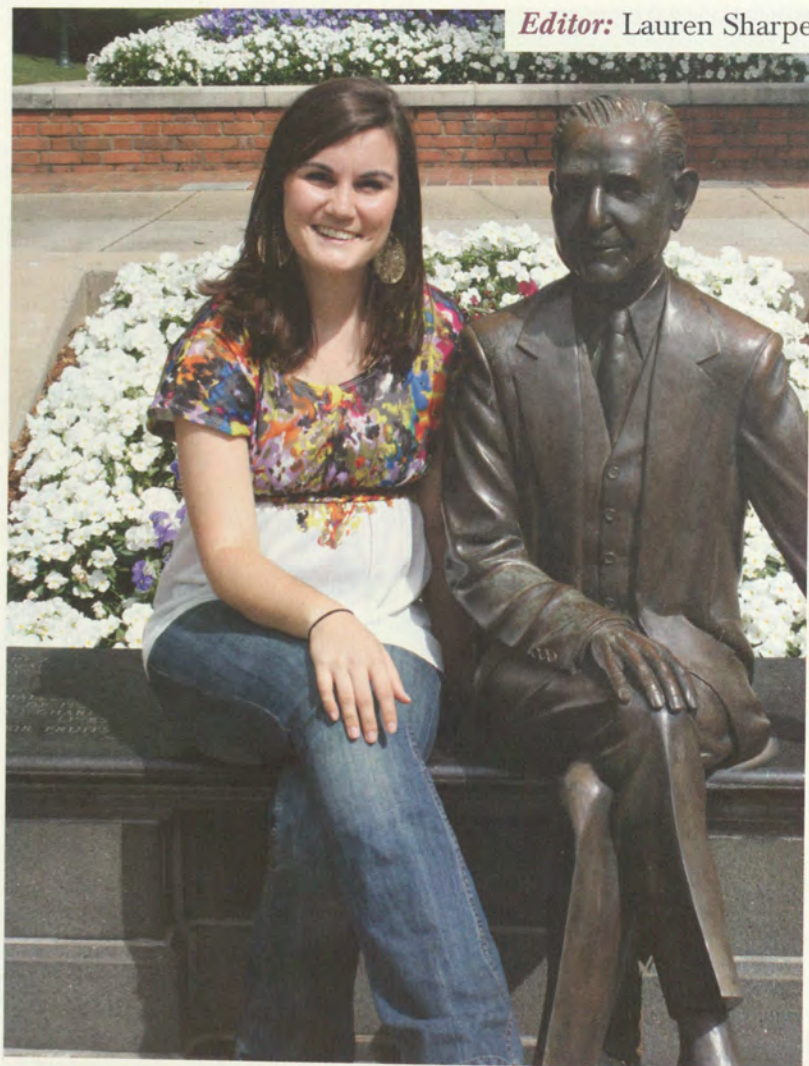








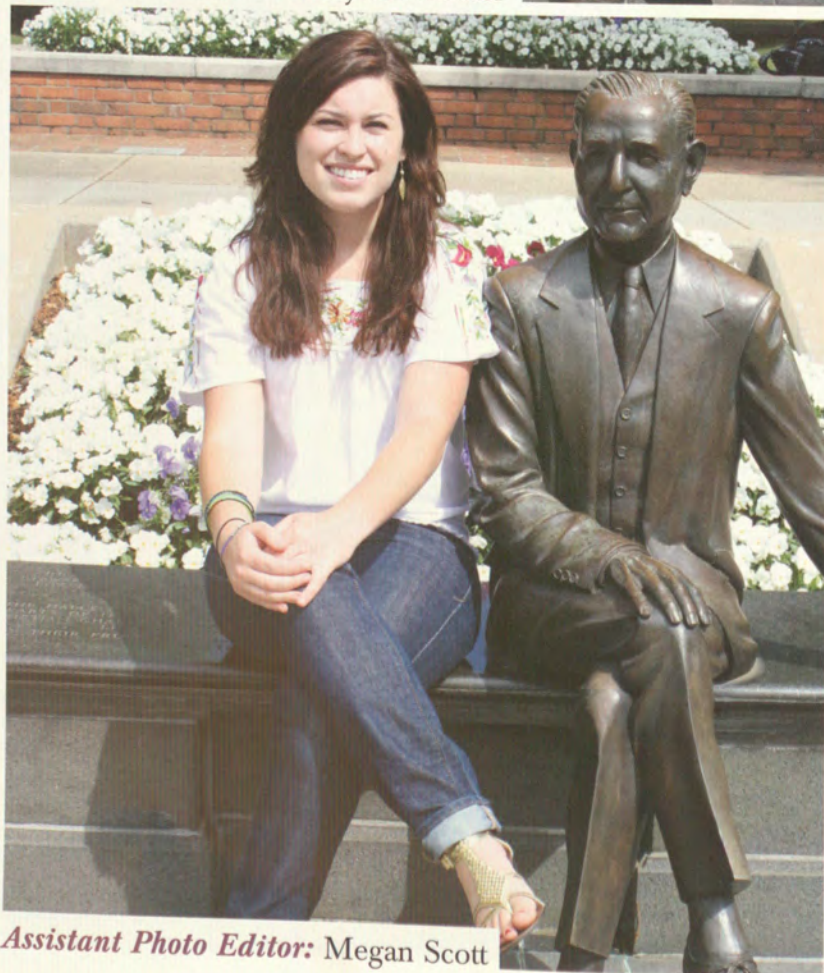
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**Sitting (from left):** Jennifer Taylor, Organizations Section Editor; Tara White, Greek Section Editor; Anne Marie Pope, Today Section Editor; **Standing (from left):** Molly C. Braswell, Samford Life Section Editor; Dan Hall, Sports Section Editor; Steven Lyles, Sports Section Editor





experie



# nice

As soon as you stepped foot inside the gates of Samford University, it was inevitable you couldn't leave without one thing to your name—a Samford *experience*. Whether you stayed atop the little hill on Lakeshore Drive for one, two, eight or ten semesters, you—along with your CP 102 classmate, Sigma Nu brother, volleyball teammate and Indie Ladies Step Sing partner—had one to share.

Pieces of your *experience* were shared with the entire Samford community. A circus-themed Dinner on the Dirt complete with funnel cakes and squealing hugs. The sudden loss of a popular classmate and basketball teammate, Jim Griffin #3. Free Buffalo Wild Wings and Qdoba in Ben Brown Plaza during Homecoming week and a 31-10 Homecoming win over Georgia Southern and a raised victory flag in Pittman Circle. Long lines, honey chicken and hot dessert Fridays in the Caf and a giant snowball on the Quad even after all the record-breaking snow had melted. Lighting of the Way. A rockin' Step Sing sweepstakes performance by Dudes-A-Plenty. Free Sister Hazel and Mat Kearney concerts. A WNIT first round win over Ole Miss and a Germann Cup victory in Samford's second year in the SoCon. The first annual commencement prayer breakfast.

While all these and more played a significant role in your Samford *experience*, what truly shaped it were the personal experiences you shared during your time inside the bubble. A game of Cranium during RA training at Camp Dawson or dressing up as the Spice Girls with your new hall mates for the I Love the 90s Connections Dance. A southern-charmed semiformal in Tuscaloosa and Mason jar beverages. Planning a library rave during finals week and catching up and people watching with your best friend in Ben Brown during Convo. Midweek lunch at Momma Goldberg's and coffee dates at O'Henry's. All-nighters with your friends in Vail lobby, chapter room or Harry's. A Janterm trip to Haiti or the semester abroad in London.

Whatever it may be, I hope you find it within the pages of this book and that you rekindle your love for your time at Samford. May you *experience* the year 2009-2010 all over again each time you glance through the snapshots of your friends and read the stories of your favorite traditions.

May you appreciate what defined your Samford *experience*.

Turn the page and take a look. Enjoy & *experience*.

-Lauren Sharpe







# T radition

*The experiences that define  
Samford life on campus  
from year to year.*





"I love Samford because it reflects eternal values. I love Samford because **the students inspire me**. I love Samford because it is a home for my family. I love Samford for what it is . . . and for what it can become." -Dr. Andrew Westmoreland, President of the University



"As soon as I saw the Belltower, **I knew I was home.**" -Sophomore interior design major Anna Laura Bryan



"I love Samford because it has played a major role in **who I have become** in just two short years. I have made a ton of new friends who all help me grow into a better student, more mature adult and support me in my Christian walk. I don't believe all these changes would have occurred to me to this extent if I had attended a different university." -Sophomore exercise science major Elizabeth Schuppert



"I love Samford because **God is at work in this place**. He ministers to us through the students and staff who gather here each day, and He strengthens us to make a powerful difference in this world." -Dr. Joseph Hopkins, Dean of the School of the Arts







**"I love the community that Samford provides.** Samford is small enough that I can get to know some of the same faces that I see everyday, but it is still big enough that I have the opportunity to meet someone new every day." -Sophomore sports medicine major Grant Willis



**"All you can eat grilled chicken - need I say more?"**  
-Senior graphic design major Josh Bateman





**Right** Decked out in the hottest fashions from childhood, freshmen take a break to pose with the number one fan of not growing up, Peter Pan.



**Above** Leopard-print tops, cheesy pop tunes and crazy dance moves - all combined to create the ultimate freshman icebreaker and the culmination of Connections, the "I Love the 90s" dance.

**Right** With the likes of the Backstreet Boys, Spice Girls and Britney Spears playing in the background, junior orientation leader and nursing major Kameryn Kline and freshman pre-pharmacy major Hayley Hotchkiss bust a move 90s style.



{ photos by: Evan Chandlee }



# Connecting to Friends & Fun

*Connections provided a wonderful way for new students to establish initial “connections” with their peers, acclimate to the Samford environment and integrate into Samford Life.*  
*by Elizabeth Cassada*

During the four-day program, from Thursday, Aug. 20 to Sunday, Aug. 24, the incoming freshmen learned a plethora of information about their new home, laughed hysterically, met countless new people and formed lasting friendships. Connections allowed students ample distractions from homesickness and moving-to-college jitters.

Connections began with move-in day. Once the freshmen were somewhat settled, everyone migrated to the Wright Center, where speakers including President Westmoreland eased the minds of new students and parents while welcoming them to campus. Students then waved goodbye to their parents, and the real fun began!

One of the first activities was Connections kick-off. Connections leaders assigned students to one of 45 groups, each with a male and female Connections leader, with whom students participated in each activity during the weekend.

Senior nursing major Elizabeth Wilson said small group sessions were the best part about being a Connections leader. “It’s awesome to have the opportunity to share in the lives of freshmen during such a huge transition,” she said. “I love helping them feel at home and watching them find their own place at Samford.”

Daytime activities during Connections included small group meetings, LIFE Comes at You Fast—an accelerated, interactive simulation of a semester at Samford—Bulldog Yell—the first pep rally, ice cream at Westmoreland’s house and Sunday morning worship in Reid Chapel.

Several small groups combined for Friday’s girls’ and guys’ nights out, but soon split into male and female groups for dinner in Birmingham at restaurants ranging

from Moe’s to Mellow Mushroom. Everyone reunited after dinner and loaded buses for the Alabama Theatre for a showing of “Cool Runnings.”

“Friday night was my favorite,” freshman graphic design major Hannah Santi said. “I enjoyed eating with my group at Jim ‘n’ Nick’s, and it was fun to see downtown Birmingham when we went to the Alabama Theatre.”

Saturday night, the girls gathered on Vail’s steps as the freshman guys serenaded them with songs like “A Whole New World” from “Aladdin” and their own interpretation of “My Girl”—“Vail Girl.” After the concert, each guy asked one girl, or three, representing the Samford guy-to-girl ratio, to be his date for the “I Love the ‘90s” dance.

“I loved dancing to music I haven’t heard since the ‘90s,” freshman film studies major Drew Young said. “Plus, it was a great way to meet people.”

Sunday night was the culmination of Connections and the beginning of Welcome Back with Dinner on the Dirt.

Establishing connections with new friends and older students, who served as role models and mentors, was such an important aspect of a student’s college experience. Connections allowed students to interact in a way conducive to forming relationships that last.

Connections leader and senior exercise science major Emily Aiken recognized that leaders positively influence younger students. “I’m glad I get to share my story with incoming freshmen and encourage them to make the most of the incredible journey they’re just beginning,” she said.

Jason Black, acting dean of admissions, was in charge of Connections. “I love watching students lead and serve other students,” he said. “It is amazing to see our leaders sacrifice their time, money and energy for our freshmen and, ultimately, for Samford. What an impact our students have on the culture of this university.”





{ photos by: Evan Chandlee }





# Just Like a Circus

*Students greeted one another with smiles and shrills of joy when they reunited during the Welcome Back festivities.*

*by Logan Heim*

The week was full of exciting activities geared toward welcoming back students after summer vacation. The 2009 theme was "Cirque du Samford," and events took place Aug. 23-28. The week's activities exposed students to all Birmingham offered.

The Student Activities Council hosted the event. Junior nursing major Breanne Dalton and junior marketing major Jay Harper, vice president of events, were the co-chairs.

"I loved planning Welcome Back because the excitement of the students' returns to campus gives life and fuels all the events we put work and time and effort into," Dalton said. "This year, we really wanted to focus on providing students with ways to get around and learn more about our city, Birmingham. It has so much excitement, great food and fun things to do. We wanted old and new students to rediscover the charm of this southern city where we are so blessed to go to school."

The week kicked off Sunday, Aug. 23, with the annual Dinner on the Dirt. The Caf served corn dogs, chicken Philly cheese steaks and funnel cakes in Ben Brown Plaza while students reunited.

"After two and a half months of summer, it is great coming back to Samford knowing there is one event everyone has been looking forward to, Dinner on the Dirt," sophomore education major Jana Bell said. "I am one of

those silly girls that enjoys the run-and-squeal embrace.

"SAC did a great job making our first week back interesting, exciting and, above all, stress-free," she said.

On Monday, students had their pictures made in a photo booth in Ben Brown. Dippin' Dots was also sold throughout the day.

Snow cones and caricatures were the highlights of Tuesday's activities, followed by a tie-dye station and free soft drinks on Wednesday.

"Getting a snow cone after a tough class was very refreshing," junior exercise science major Sydney Davis said.

Thursday's events included A Taste of Birmingham, in which local restaurants, such as Newk's and Maki Fresh, came to the food court and gave students samples of their foods. The day ended with a concert from acoustic artist Sean McConnell.

Friday's Samford Marketplace brought local shops, including the popular Mountain High Outfitters, to campus to set up booths with their merchandise.

Welcome Back was one of the many highlights of students' fall semesters. SAC member and sophomore journalism and mass communication and political science double major Riley Westmoreland said, "It was a great start to the events for the year for freshman and upper-classmen alike."

Whether a freshman or a senior, Welcome Back was a time to renew old friendships, make new ones and ease into an exciting semester.

**Top Left** With students returning to campus, football and frisbee filled the quad once more.

**Top Right** Reunited after the three-month summer vacation, friends enjoy being in each other's company once more.

**Middle Left** Students enjoy Dinner on the Dirt, which consisted of Philly cheese steak, fruit and funnel cake.

**Right** In true Welcome Back fashion, sophomore international relations major Mary Davis embraces her friend on the quad.

**Bottom Left** Beneath the circus lights, students share dinner, laughter and summer memories.





{photos by: Evan Chandlee}



# Building Community

*At many colleges, "residence life" referred to dorm room assignments, maintenance requests and fines.*

*by Lauren Womack*

That's about it. But at Samford, Residence Life played a large part in the total college experience for students, from bonding with hallmates in Vail to dancing with friends at the annual Beeson Ball.

Lauren Taylor, director of Residence Life, said her staff worked to make every day great for students. "Students are in class 12-18 hours out of the week. The rest of the time, they're in the residence halls, working, learning, socializing and developing relationships," Taylor said. "Res Life is crucial to the everyday lives of students."

Taylor emphasized that the Residence Life staff strived not only to provide the basic necessities of living, but also to build solid relationships with the students they served. The 67 resident assistants living in residence halls provided students with a friend who could help with almost any kind of problem, nearly any time of day.

"We do try to get to know people on a personal level, not just 'Oh, you live in room 101,'" Taylor said. "This year, we have done everything from delivering meals to people who were sick with H1N1 to checking in with people to see how things are going. Building community and getting to know the neighbors is a very important role that resident assistants play in the residence halls."

Central Campus RA and senior Spanish major Andrew Crosson said the opportunity to impact the lives of freshmen is one of the main reasons he decided to be an RA. "Freshman year, my RA helped me adjust to university life and became a close friend," he said. "Being an RA for freshmen gives you the chance to pour yourself into their lives and be their friend when they may not have many others at a new place like college."

While providing a home away from home, Residence Life also offered plenty of social and educational activities for students throughout the school year. Freshman journalism and mass communication major Jackie Long participated in several Residence Life activities designed specifically for freshmen. She said some of her favorite events were the monthly hall activities planned by each resident assistant, which ranged from pumpkin carvings in October to late-night, year-round Sonic runs.

"The hall activities are great for bonding time," Long said. "My hall has grown really close because of our trips. These activities are so much fun, and I've really met a lot of fun people through them."

Whether in Central Campus, West Campus or Beeson Woods, Residence Life had its hand in making students' experiences great. The staff worked to encourage the spiritual, physical, social and academic growth of every student living on campus. That growth began at "home."

**Below** Freshman girls of fourth east Vail huddle together with RA junior religion major Meg Lacy in the community bathroom.



**Top Left** Members of the Church at Brook Hills help take some of the heavy lifting off freshman families.

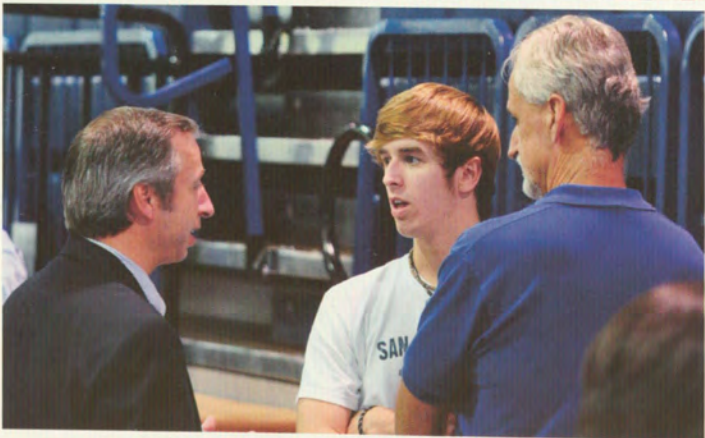
**Top Right** Freshman undeclared major Chris Cephus, senior finance major Rumiko Forrester and senior management major Cody Crowell spread Bulldog spirit.

**Middle Left** Freshman undeclared major Rebecca Price looks forward to her home away from home.

**Right** Lending a hand on move-in day, Shades Mountain Baptist Church members help out at Smith Hall.

**Bottom Left** Sophomore RA and exercise science major Korie Schaeffler checks freshman girls in to Vail Hall.





[photos by: Evan Chandlee]



# Families Come Home

*Samford's annual Family Weekend took place October 9-11.*

*The weekend was an opportunity for students to spend time with their families and introduce them to their lives at Samford.*

*by Lizz Milne*

For some students, this was the first time their families visited campus since school began in August. The weekend, themed "Leave It to Beeson," officially kicked off with a dessert reception at President Westmoreland's new home.

Although freshman English major Tiffany Jordan's family did not make it to Samford until Saturday, she joined in Friday night's festivities as a greeter at the reception. Jordan said she was impressed by the amount of work put into Family Weekend and was pleased the Family Weekend chairs, junior marketing and Spanish major Jes Shields and junior English major Maddie Henderson invited students not on Student Activities Council to participate. "It was a great opportunity to get involved," Jordan said. "Also, I loved meeting my friends' families."

On Saturday morning, families had the opportunity to meet Samford faculty, and Greek students introduced their families to their sorority sisters or fraternity brothers. That afternoon, families had lunch on the Quad. The day's festivities concluded with the football game between Samford and UT Chattanooga. The defeat was disappointing, but the game was an exciting part of the weekend.

Sunday, students introduced their families to their Birmingham churches. Later, families had the opportunity to attend the annual Family Weekend golf tournament or take a trip to Halcyon Days Salons and Spas at the Summit.

Many students were anxious to show their families more of "The Magic City." Junior family studies major Elizabeth Haley celebrated the weekend by taking her parents and sister to the Galleria in Hoover and Soho Sweets in Homewood. Since it was her sister's 16th birthday, Elizabeth surprised her with a birthday cake from Soho's bakery.

Freshman pre-business major Meredith Toering and her 4-year-old sister Erica, who was adopted from China, had a sleepover in resident assistant and sophomore pre-business major Caroline Noland's room. "Erica was very excited when she was allowed to draw on the mirrors in the sixth floor bathrooms," Toering said. "She would never be allowed to do that at home." Erica's masterpiece was a picture of her standing with her big sister.

As Erica's artwork suggested, families shared with their students a weekend that was picture perfect.



**Top Left and Right** Families line up to meet Andy and Jeanna Westmoreland. The Westmorelands hosted a dessert reception at their new home on Friday evening.

**Middle Left** Joe Hopkins, dean of the School of the Arts, speaks with families.

**Bottom Left** Junior marketing major Grace Simmons and her family speak with Randy Pittman, vice president for University Advancement.

**Above** The Westmorelands continue to meet families at the dessert reception.



{photo by: Leah Jane Henderson}



{photo by: Lauren Sharpe}



{photo by: Leah Jane Henderson}





# Party Like You're 109!

*"Party like you're 109!" advertised the annual Beeson Ball in colored sidewalk chalk along the bridge between Beeson Woods and central campus the week before the event.*

*by Elizabeth Cassada*

The colorful etching encouraged and enticed Beeson Woods' residents to attend the party.

Beeson Woods Residence Life funded and hosted the sixth annual dance. The event was started for Beeson Woods' residents but grew in popularity to include all students. Beeson Ball 2009 was held at the McWane Science Center, and that night fell on Mr. Beeson's 109th birthday, Oct. 24. The event had a special birthday theme, complete with decorations such as boxes wrapped like birthday presents and party hats on every table.

The planning stages for Beeson Ball began long before Mr. Beeson's birthday. The Beeson Woods staff was in charge of planning and orchestrating the event. The Beeson Woods RAs split into four committees, food, music, decorations or advertising. For senior nursing major and Evergreen RA Erin Wert, the preliminary planning phase was the best part. "I loved the birthday party theme and the fact that I helped decide that theme," she said. "It was great to be a part of the initial spark of the idea."

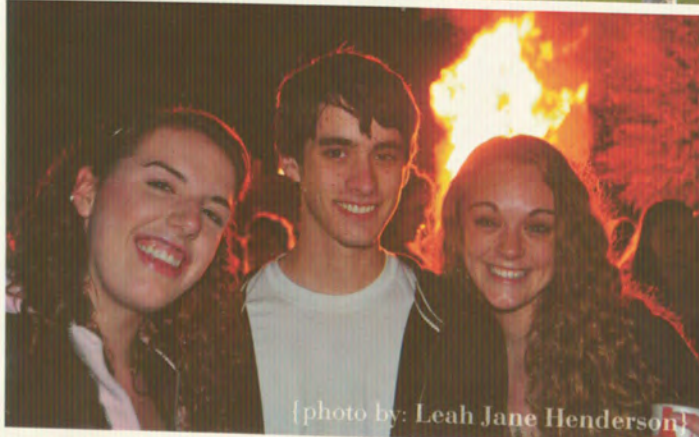
While the RAs had a lot of fun planning Beeson Ball, the students in attendance enjoyed themselves as well. Some took dates and others went with a group of friends, but everyone made the most of the evening of music and dancing.

"My favorite part of the night was just hanging out with friends in a fun environment," sophomore history major Shaphan Helms said. "Besides, it's always fun to have an occasion to get dressed up!"

Beeson Ball brought students together from all areas of campus and was an awesome opportunity for the independent and greek communities to throw on their dazzling dresses and sophisticated suits to party together. Sophomore math education major Katherine Moore said she thought this commingling of greeks and independents was the best part of Beeson Ball. "I am in a sorority, but many of my friends are not," she said. "Beeson Ball allowed us all to go together and have a great time."

Beeson Woods residence life coordinator, Kacey Cole said she thought Beeson Ball went exceptionally well this year. "We had 416 students attend from all over campus, and it appeared that everyone had a great time. The McWane Center was a great venue for the event, and their staff was wonderful to help us with all the details," she said. "I really felt like it was an incredibly successful event this year."





(photo by: Leah Jane Henderson)



# Bonfire, Football, and God

*Homecoming was more than just a game or an event-packed weekend.*

*by Lacy Craig*

The meaning of the word truly came alive this year. Students, professors, alumni and people from every aspect of Samford's society were connected with the common bond of love for our school.

Throughout the week, students were privy to free events in Ben Brown during lunch hours, including a wild ride on a mechanical bull. A vibe of excitement filled the air as students prepared for an event overload that weekend.

Friday night brought a sense of nostalgia with a giant bonfire in front of Seibert Stadium. With logs piled high and flames shooting into the stars, students gathered in the chill night air and prepared themselves for the big game taking place the next day. Freshman nursing major Emily Buckner said, "The bonfire was a perfect way to meet new people while rocking out to some awesome 90s music."

Saturday morning, dozens of people filled the parking lot behind the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing. For weeks, groups had been preparing giant floats of tissue paper and chicken wire just for this moment. The Homecoming parade featured Greek floats, including Alpha Delta Pi's first place entry, a bagpipe troupe and several convertibles with waving crowd-pleasers such as Miss Samford 2009, sophomore interior design major Anna Laura Bryan, the 2009 Homecoming court and even Andy and Jeanna Westmoreland. The Samford Ministries Choir made their way through the parade with their annual kazoo band and threw candy into the crowds. "The Homecoming parade exemplifies the passion and school spirit that blankets every faction of Samford University," history department chair John Mayfield said.

The next event was the tailgate. Girls in dresses and guys tossing footballs covered the Quad between tents of food provided by different organizations. Greeks proudly displayed their letters and Residence Life set up its tent right in the middle of the action. The communication studies and journalism and mass communication departments held alumni gatherings that built up a sense of Samford love throughout the ages.

Senior journalism and mass communication major Jeremy Hunt said, "I think Homecoming is great because it's one of the few opportunities where students, faculty and alumni all gather together for one purpose. As a bonus the tailgate is an excellent opportunity for networking within your field of interest in the future."

Constant chatter and bursts of laughter could be heard across the Quad all day, and a hot air balloon provided yet another opportunity for fun.

Journalism and mass communication alumna Robyn Blaikie Collins summed up the overall Homecoming experience. "To see the activity and excitement on campus was a powerful thing," she said. "In addition to marveling at the growth, it reminded the alumni how grateful we are to have a Samford education and lifelong friends."

The day ended with the football game against the Georgia Southern Eagles, which resulted in a 31-10 win for the Bulldogs. Fans from all walks of life were brought together by their love for the Dogs, and the stands erupted with cheerful fans throughout Seibert Stadium.

The Sunday morning worship service in Hodges was the quiet close of Homecoming. "The Homecoming worship service is a tradition 15 years running," Matt Kerlin, minister to the university, said. "It gives alumni an opportunity to reconnect with one another in a worship setting. To top it off, the weather was fantastic, making the day a real joy on the whole."

**Top** Alpha Delta Pi parades around campus with their "Easy as Pi" winning float.

**Middle Left** Sophomore sports administration major Tara Koehler and freshman pre-pharmacy major Chloe Sloan lead the Bulldogs in spirit.

**Right** The mechanical bull in Ben Brown was only one of the week's exciting student activities.

**Bottom Left** Sophomores biology major Katie Bruder-Mattson, business major Ryan Zacher and nursing major Karen Mills enjoy Friday's bonfire.





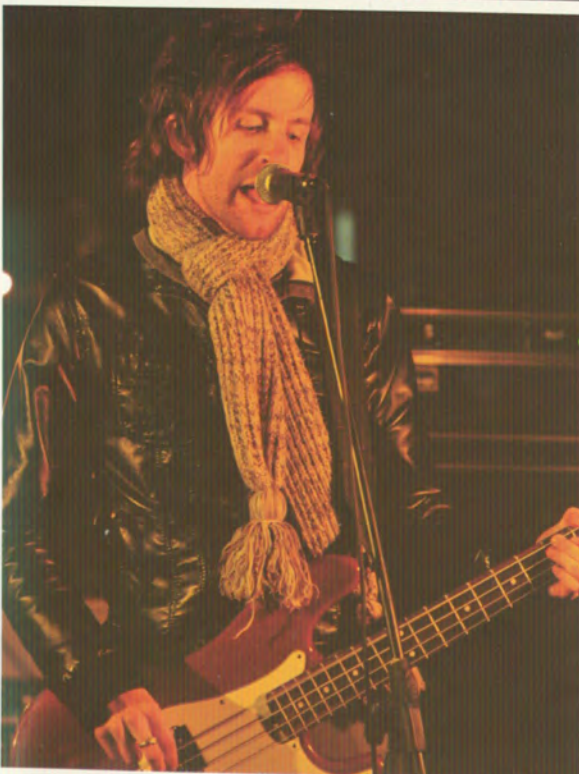
{photo by: Leah Jane Henderson}



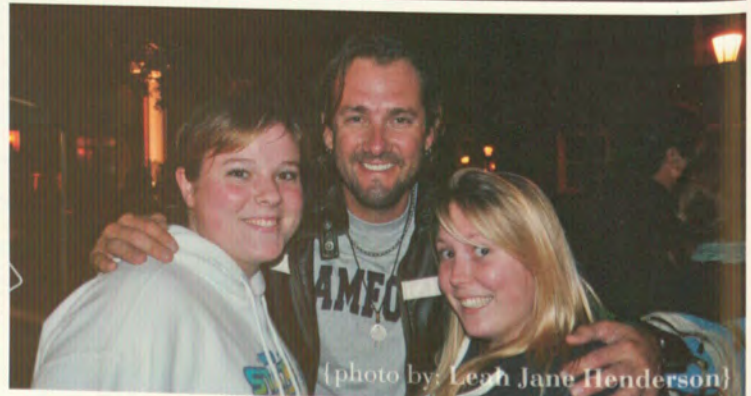
**Above** Juniors interior design major Caroline Fortson and communication studies major Melissa Gunter enjoy free eats in Ben Brown. **Left** Senior Homecoming court representatives English major Tai Richardson and education major Josh Perkins.



{photos by: Evan Chandlee}



**Above** Sister Hazel performs Monday night on the Quad to kick off the week's festivities. **Left** The Kicks play at Friday night's bonfire. **Right** Students enjoy each other's company at the bonfire.



{photo by: Leah Jane Henderson}





**Top Left** Homecoming royalty seniors English major Mary Laura Rogan and communication studies major Bee Frederick. **Above** A bagpipe troupe joins in the parade. **Left** Senior sports medicine major and running back Chris Evans gains yardage. **Below** Friends enjoy the game.



{photos by: Evan Chandlee}



# Diamonds are a girl's best friend

*The Miss Samford contestants  
dazzled the audience as they  
competed for the Miss Samford 2010  
title on Nov. 20, 2009.*

*by Logan Heim*

Contestants embodied the pageant's theme, "Miss Samford and Co." as they showcased their talent and beauty. Each of the seven contestants competed in the categories of onstage interview, lifestyle and fitness, evening gown and the 10-minute interview with the judges conducted earlier that afternoon.

After watching each contestant compete in each phase of the competition, the judges selected junior marketing and management major Susan Hamm as Miss Samford 2010. "Being crowned as Miss Samford 2010 was one of the most memorable moments of my college experience," Hamm said. "Not only was I able to practice my public speaking and interviewing skills, but I received half of a semester's tuition scholarship. On top of all this, I have the opportunity to represent Samford at the Miss Alabama pageant, which has been a goal of mine for as long as I can remember."

Other pageant finalists included first runner-up, junior education major Ashla Taylor, and second runner-up, first-year pharmacy student Maegan Carroll. Junior chemistry and biochemistry major Katherine Fuller tied with Hamm in the talent competition. Both performed piano pieces. Junior musical theatre major Hannah Seymour was voted Miss Congeniality.

The contestants and the Miss Samford directors, sophomore nursing major Kelsey Richter and sophomore nutrition and dietetics major Christina Schoerner, put vast amounts of hard work and preparation into the pageant. "When preparing for Miss Samford, there are so many behind the scenes things to be done," Richter said. "You literally have tons to prepare for, from the production to the paperwork to getting the girls ready. Each day brings something new that needs preparation."

The directors were particularly selective when deciding a theme for this year's pageant. "When choosing our theme, we wanted to choose something relevant to today's society, yet something classy as well," Richter said. "All girls love diamonds and Tiffany's, especially pageant girls.

Knowing this, we thought 'Miss Samford and Co.' was a perfect theme."

Many contestants expressed how much they grew and benefited from their participation in the pageant. Sophomore journalism and mass communication major Annie Lockwood said she found the pageant as the perfect outlet to serve and give back to Samford and the Birmingham community. "I have always wanted to benefit the community and do something big to serve others," she said. "Miss Samford was a great opportunity to become more involved in different service organizations and helped to shed more light on my platform, child literacy."

Sophomore nursing major M-K Pugh said the pageant helped her gain more confidence and allowed her to get more involved in the community. "I grew more confident in myself and my abilities," Pugh said. "Participating in the pageant was a very positive experience. It was fun, and it was also rewarding because I was very involved with my platform, breast cancer awareness, support and prevention. I worked with the Breast Cancer Research Foundation of Alabama. The pageant helped me remember to push myself and to always think positively."

Each contestant worked hard preparing for the pageant, and Taylor said the friendships they made were well worth the work. "My favorite aspect was getting to know all of the other girls," she said. "I really enjoyed developing friendships with the girls and keeping them encouraged throughout the whole experience."

Both the contestants and the directors said they felt the pageant was a great success. Hamm said she was honored to receive the title and looked forward to representing Samford at the Miss Alabama pageant in the summer of 2010.

**Below** Miss Samford contestants dance as 2009 Miss Samford Anna Laura Bryan sings.



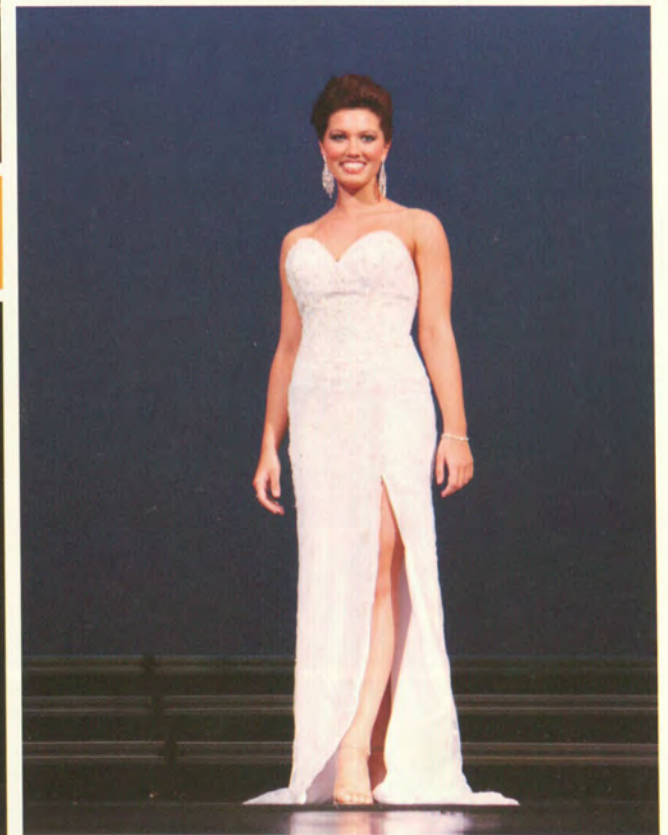




{photos by: Ann Monsor}

**Left** Susan Hamm is crowned Miss Samford 2010. Hamm will move on to compete in Miss Alabama in June. Her platform was Children's Miracle Network - a smile for every child.

**Below** M-K Pugh sings "In His Eyes" by Nick Simpson during the talent competition. Her platform was to raise breast cancer awareness, support and prevention.



**Above** Ashla Taylor graces the stage during the evening wear competition. Taylor's platform was awareness of public school funding.

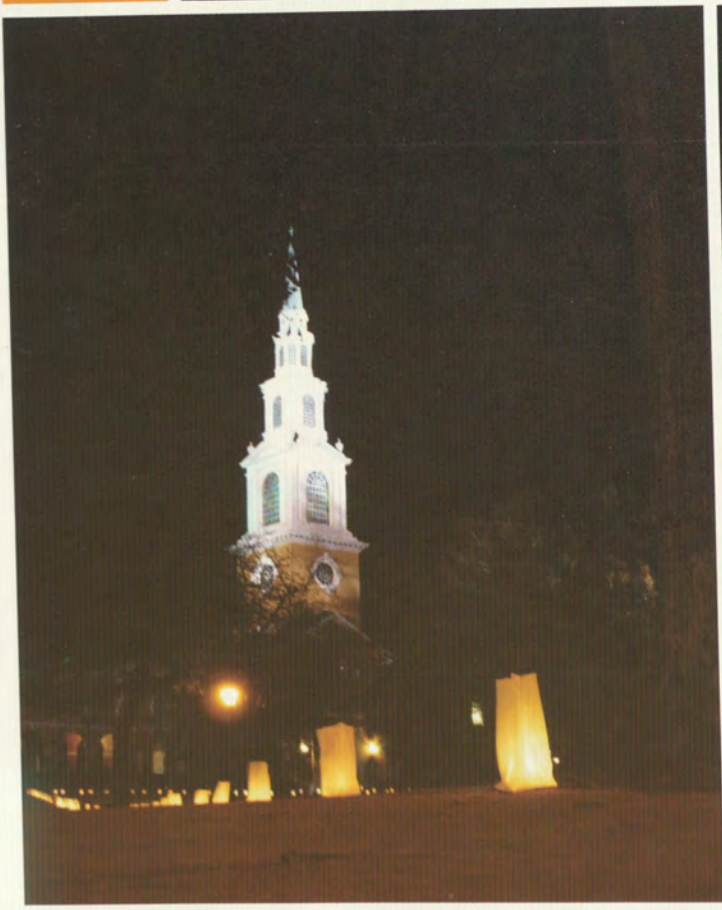
**Left** Katherine Fuller answers an impromptu question during the onstage interview. Fuller won a talent award for her piano piece, "Prelude in G, op. 23 no. 5," by Sergei Rachmaninoff.



**Above** For her talent, Hannah Seymour sings "Gimme, Gimme" by Jeanine Tesori.









# Deck the Quad

*With stomachs full of turkey and hearts warmed by quality time with family and friends, Samford students returned from Thanksgiving Break to find the campus sprinkled with Christmas spirit.*  
by Elizabeth Cassada

Glittering Christmas lights lined Centennial Walk, garland encircled lampposts and massive ornaments adorned the giant Christmas tree that towered behind Mr. Beeson. In addition to the uplifting joy of the cheerful decorations, students enjoyed several Christmas events hosted by different organizations on campus as well as one particularly special night packed with Christmas festivities. On Thursday, Dec. 3, students satisfied their Christmas cravings with the Hanging of the Green service, the Lighting of the Way and an after party in Harry's Coffeehouse.

The 29th annual Hanging of the Green commenced at 6 p.m. in Reid Chapel. The event included special music by University Chorale, congregational hymns and adornment of the chapel with Christmas decorations of poinsettias, candles and Christmas trees. During the event, 14 senior honorees, who were selected based on scholastic achievement, leadership, community service and spiritual commitment, played an important role by participating in the narration of the service and decoration of the chapel.

April Robinson, minister to students and campus and community involvement director, said Hanging of the Green was an essential component of the Christmas celebrations. "I enjoy Hanging of the Green because it marks the beginning of Advent, a season of anticipation and hope," she said. "It draws my attention away from the consumerism of Christmas and toward the cradle of the Christ child, where hope enters the world!"

Following Hanging of the Green, students meandered to Centennial Walk for Lighting of the Way. During this traditional ceremony that officially lit up campus for Christmas, Jeanna Westmoreland read the Christmas story, religion professor Jim Barnette presented a short devotional, senior religion major Ben Telfair led the crowd in prayer and the crowd sang along with the Samford Ministries Choir, who sang The First Noel, Joy to the World, O Come All Ye Faithful and Silent Night.

"The tree was lit during Silent Night," senior nursing major and president of SMC Erin Wert said. "This is my favorite part of Christmas at Samford. It is absolutely breathtaking when the tree is lit. I also love the luminaries that line the Quad during Lighting of the Way."

After Lighting of the Way, students headed to Harry's to savor steaming cups of hot chocolate and indulge in Christmas cookies while listening to the band Act of Congress.

"There is really never a dull moment during Christmas time at Samford," sophomore public administration major Brian Jackson said. "Lighting of the Way feels like a sort of initiation into the Christmas season, and the decorations and holiday parties are great!"

The decorations and festivities spread joy and saturated campus with Christmas cheer that carried everyone through the break.



# In the Spotlight

*Students arrived back on campus from Christmas break, and, instantly, Step Sing season began.*

*by Ashley Cox*

In a mere three weeks at the beginning of the spring semester, groups across campus created entertaining and award-winning shows. With "The Dream," Dudes-A-Plenty was back on top, Sigma Chi was nowhere to be found and pop culture was a heavy influence for all participants.

DAP's show not only claimed the Sweepstakes trophy but also ran away with excellence in choreography and music. The Sweepstakes-winning show was dreamed up by directors senior journalism and mass communication major Jeremy Hunt and senior religion major Ben Telfair. Hunt said Telfair came up with the theme from the TV shows "Glee" and "So You Think You Can Dance."

They loved the idea of going from a school setting to a rock scene and becoming rock stars. "It was a lot of hard work, but having guys come and tell us how much fun they had and the great relationships that they had built made it so worth it," Hunt said. Hunt said he worked with the music and Telfair did the choreography.

"All of it as a whole was great, practicing and hanging out with dudes for three weeks," fellow dude and junior journalism and mass communication major Alan Harned said.

Hunt said they were shocked when they heard they had won Sweepstakes. "I thought 'It can't be us. It can't be, but maybe it is,'" Hunt said. "My heart was beating ridiculously fast, and I don't think I remember the ten minutes after they said our name."

Behind DAP at first runner-up was 2009 Sweepstakes winner Pi Kappa Phi with their outer space "Rock It" show. The guys used an anti-gravity machine and said that was one of the most difficult parts of the show.

"Being a director gave me the chance to further develop brotherhood with the fraternity and to work with two other brilliant directors, (senior music major) Adam Murphy and (junior English major) Will Phillips, to make an unforgettable show," director and senior biology major Nick Piazza said.

The Pi Kapp directors split up the work and Murphy, a more "rhythmically inclined brethren," Piazza said, worked on the choreography. Phillips said it was wonderful that they performed so well two years in a row.

Second runners-up Phi Mu performed "Risky Business" and set Las Vegas as their background. Director and senior communications studies major Kathryn Matherly said they decided on this theme because of the popularity the city had in movies and music over the year, such as the Lady Gaga song "Poker Face" and the Ashton Kutcher and Cameron Diaz movie "What Happens in Vegas."

Even though the weeks were stressful, Matherly managed to keep a positive attitude. "No matter how stressful those three weeks got, I tried to keep a positive attitude because my attitude, as the director, affected the girls' attitudes about our show," she said.

"The best way to describe my feelings is summed up in this sentence - second runner-up never felt so good," director and senior communications studies major Sarah Rigsby said. "My favorite part about being director was seeing our vision actually come together," she said.

The Independent Ladies directors, senior international relations and Spanish major Hannah Joiner and senior nutrition and dietetics major April Weston said they had been cultivating "Project Runway" for more than a year, and the idea of stewardesses is one they had always wanted to bring to the





stage. Joiner said she enjoyed their show and the camaraderie it formed.

"What's interesting about the Independent Ladies is we all come from different areas of campus, and since we don't have weekly chapter, formal events or an on-campus house, we don't have that existing bond that sororities have," Joiner said.

First-year participant junior sociology major Cecily Curl also enjoyed her time with the Independent Ladies. "It was an amazing experience. I was nervous at first because I really didn't know what to expect, but our fabulous directors soon put me at ease," she said.

Lambda Chi Alpha's "Lambda Chi Turns to Piracy," was inspired by "I'm on a Boat" from the band The Lonely Island. "We wanted to have a really diverse show with songs that appealed to all demographics, which is why we included a 'Veggie Tales' song, 'Pirates of the Caribbean' and 'I'm on a Boat,'" director and junior political science major Zach Owens said.

Alpha Omicron Pi based their theme on the popular 1960s sitcom "I Dream of Jeannie." Director and senior sociology major Amelia Davis said, "Being a Step Sing director comes with a ton of responsibility, and it takes patience and is extremely time consuming."

Junior journalism and mass communication major and AOPi performer Milan Mayo said Step Sing impacted her greatly. "One of the main reasons I decided to come to Samford was because of Step Sing," Mayo said. "Step Sing is probably the most important experience for me at Samford." She plans to run for one of AOPi's 2011 Step Sing director spots.

When Alpha Delta Pi decided to become bank robbers, "Vault" was born. Director and senior graphic design major Chelsea Hoffman said her mom came up with the idea to do a heist for Step Sing. She said that she and her fellow directors, senior history major Emily Wright and senior childhood education major Ashley Oliver, made efficient guidelines for the girls and some goals to follow to make their show great. "Being a director consists of everything from paperwork to finding the music, and we found that communication was the key, not just between us and the girls, but between the three of us," Hoffman said.

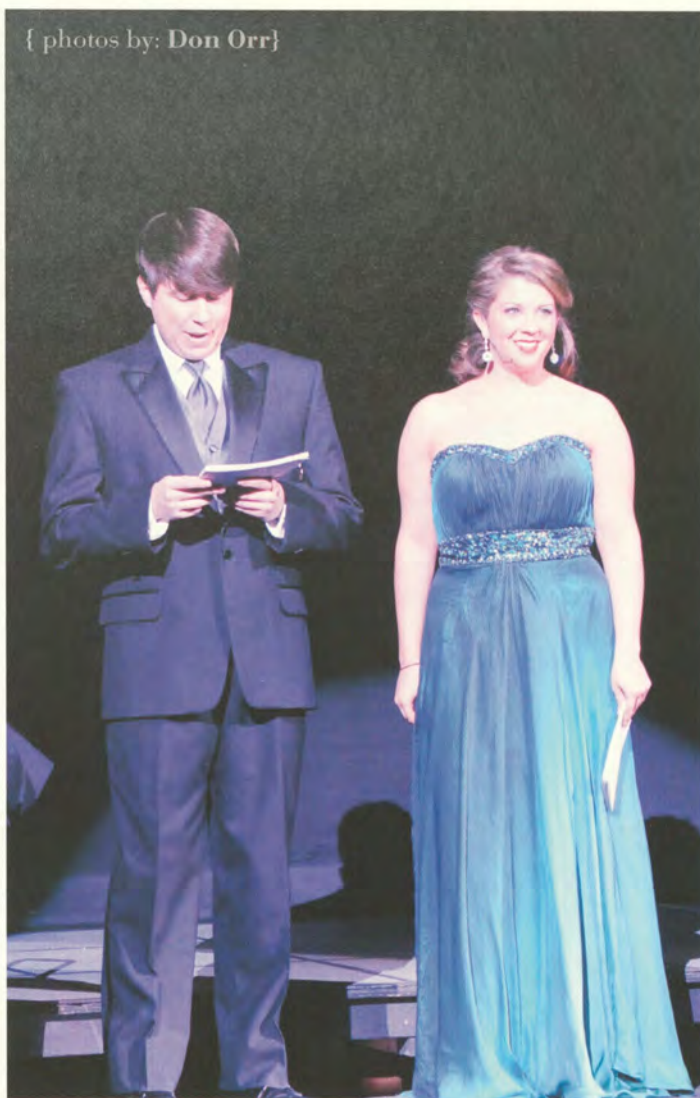
The ADPi directors said they needed to be passionate about the show so the 70 girls in their group would be as well. "Our goal from the very beginning was to create a show that our girls would love performing and that the audience would enjoy watching, and I think we achieved that goal," Wright said.

Freshman ladies decided to spice up then cool down the Step Sing stage with "Fire and Ice." Director and freshman communication studies major Jane Marie Hutcheson said she and fellow directors family studies major Katrina Brown and nursing major Crystal Wade built the theme around the song "Temperature" by Sean Paul.

"Directing the Freshmen Ladies show was absolutely out of control, and although it was a lot of hard work, it definitely paid off as the show began to come together in the three weeks prior to Step Sing," Brown said.

Chi Omega based "A Knight's Tale" off the famous "Dark Knight" himself - Batman. Senior nursing major Elle Martin and senior family studies major Chelsea Thompson directed this year's show. Martin said they chose their theme because they

{ photos by: Don Orr }



didn't want a "typical sorority girl routine."

Martin said every aspect of the show was stressful, but in the end, it all came together. "I have countless new inside jokes, new memories and truly new best friends because of the time we spent together," Martin said.

University Ministries tackled the "Alice in Wonderland" story with the theme "Chasing Rabbits." Director and senior journalism and mass communication and pre-law major Franklin Graves said he was a member of Dudes-A-Plenty his first few years, but for his last year, he decided to do the University Ministries show. Graves said that fellow director and senior sociology major Hope Hamilton provided a creative and excellent work attitude for the group.

"I knew how important it was for University Ministries to bring an entertaining and unforgettable show that was able to compete at the Samford Step Sing level," Graves said.

UM won best costumes, and Graves said it was all thanks to senior nursing major Lacey Kirkland, sophomore history and social science major Molly McCollum, senior English and language arts major Megan Riley and senior education major Amanda Taylor.

Rounding out the 2010 Step Sing performance was Zeta Tau Alpha, who decided to be puppets with their theme, "Life on a String," and incorporated "No Strings Attached" by boy band phenomenon N'Sync. The directors of the show were senior education major Katie Albertson and junior education major Katy King.





{ photo by: Rebecca Tischler }



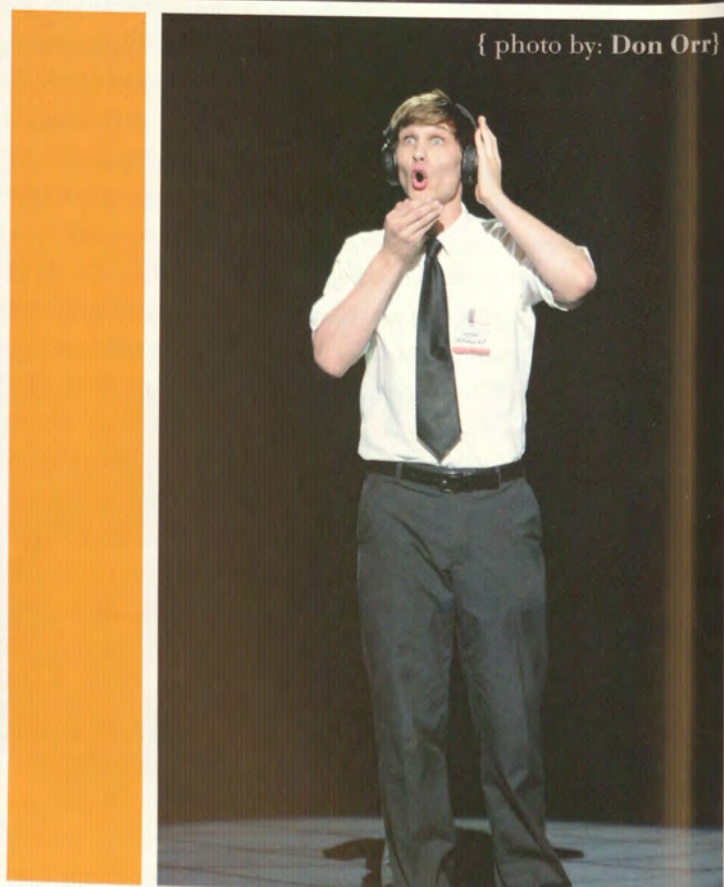
{ photo by: Leah Henderson }



{ photo by: Rebecca Tischler }



{ photo by: Leah Henderson }



{ photo by: Don Orr }

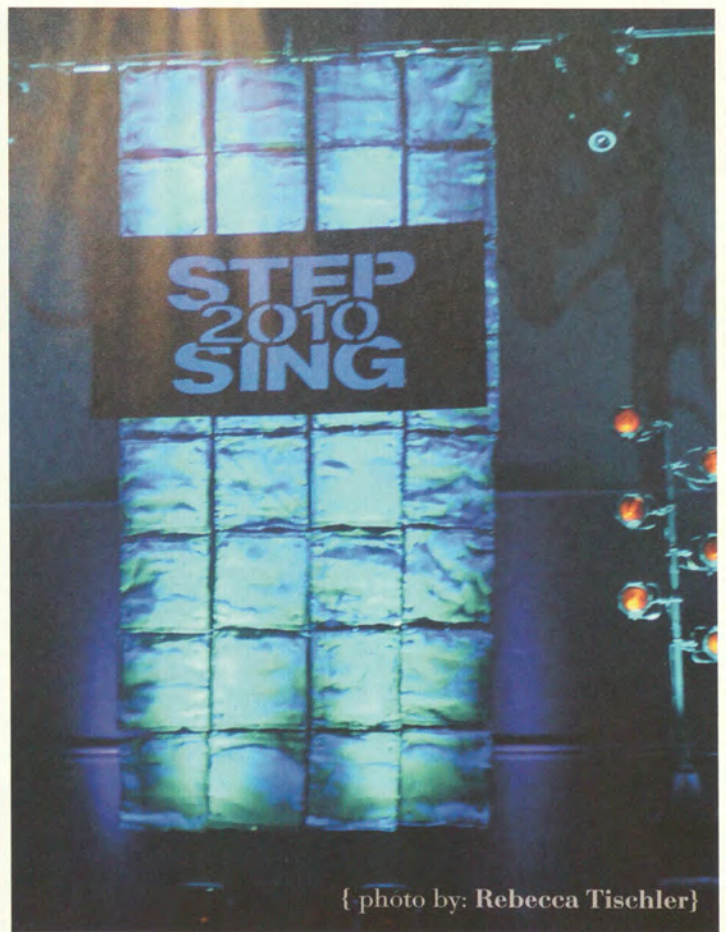




{ photo by: Rebecca Tischler }



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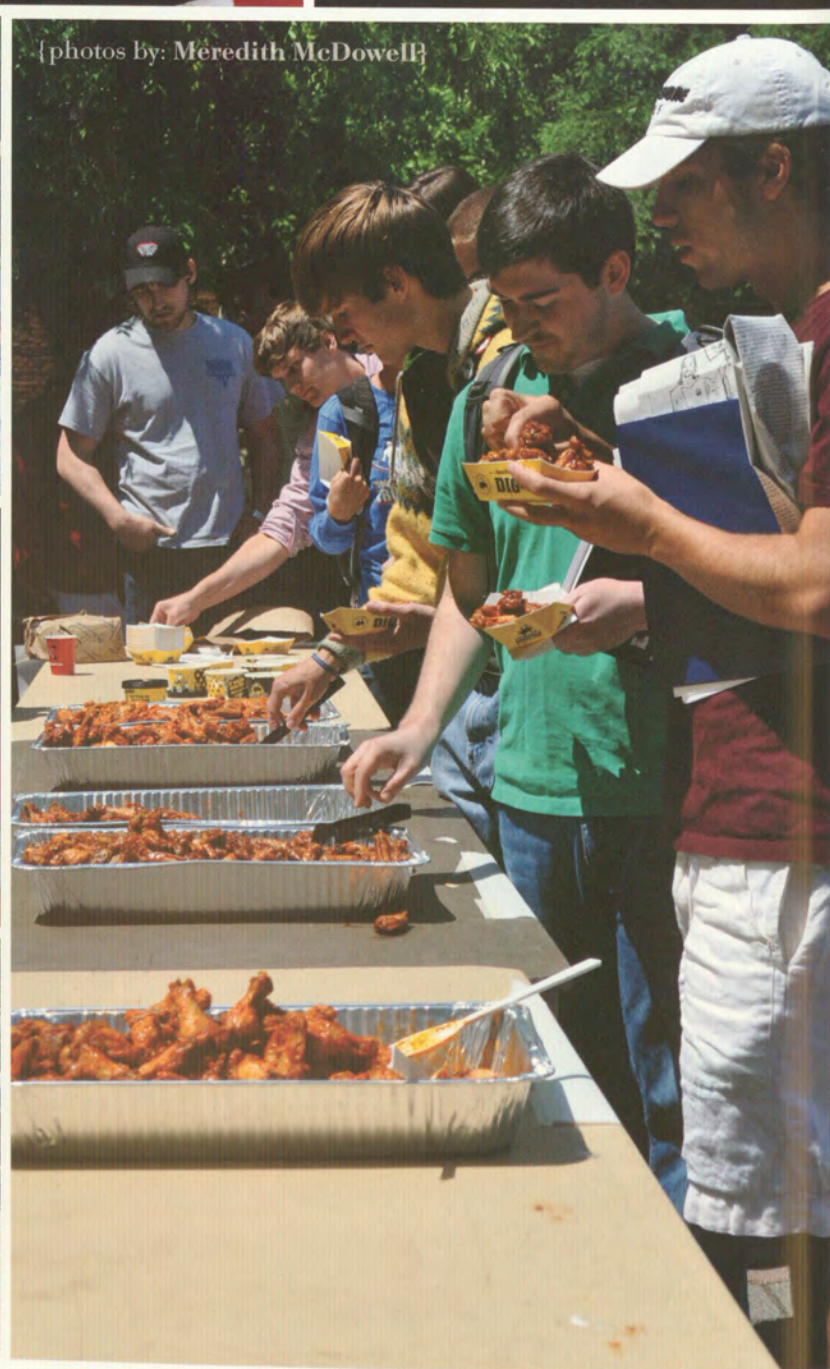


{ photo by: Don Orr }





{photos by: Meredith McDowell}





# Fling before Finals

*Spring at Samford generally meant smelling beautiful flowers lining the walkways, relaxing on the Quad during warm sunny days and spending afternoons sipping Icees and eating Chick-fil-A sandwiches in Ben Brown Plaza, but no spring at Samford would be complete without the annual Spring Fling.*

*by Mary Grace Bullard*

Co-chairs sophomore pharmacy major Anna Reid and sophomore journalism and mass communication major Ann Monsor decided that the week of April 25 was the perfect time for Spring Fling 2010.

"My favorite thing about it was just being responsible for everyone having a great time together," Monsor said. "I love how much everyone got to hang out and take a breather together and enjoy the gorgeous weather and some good music. Everyone's smiles and encouragement at how much they enjoyed the time to just chill totally made all the preparation worth the while."

From "Wing Fling," when SAC provided Buffalo Wild Wings in Ben Brown Plaza, to a free Mat Kearney concert on the Quad, the new SAC worked diligently to give students something to cheer up the exams-filled weeks ahead.

"Spring Fling is an opportunity for the campus to relax, enjoy the great spring weather and look forward to the days of summer ahead," assistant director of student involvement for activities Tyler Sellers said. "SGA tries to make it a week of simple, fun activities, with a little music thrown in to spice it up."

Sophomore journalism and mass communication major Dubose Ratchford said the Quad concert was her favorite event. Students enjoyed a memorable performance by Nashville-based Mat Kearney on the Quad on Thursday, April 29, in lieu of the weekly Harry's coffeehouse concerts.

"I thought it was cool how (Kearney) actually came into the crowd, and it seemed like he wanted to be with us," sophomore nursing major Kristen Allen said.

Other students enjoyed the free food and activities provided throughout the week in Ben Brown Plaza. "I really liked the wings and free ice cream. I think they should do stuff like that more often," sophomore nursing major Morgan Rinehart said.

All of Reid and Monsor's hard work paid off, from ice cream and spin art to the Mat Kearney concert on the Quad, Spring Fling 2010 was a completely successful escape for students before exams enveloped their lives.





# Great Escape

*Although napping inside your dorm room on those cloudy, rainy days was relaxing, overloaded students needed a good dose of Vitamin D every so often.*  
by Katie Willis

Birmingham weather was completely and predictably unpredictable with frequent downpours of rain one hour and bright sunshine the next. When those precious hours of warm temperatures and sunshine came around, students likely spent as much of their time outdoors as possible.

The Quad – the very heart of Samford’s campus – was the most popular place for students to spend those sunshine-filled hours. Class status meant nothing when hanging out on the Quad; students of all ages were drawn to it.

“The Quad is a great place to be,” freshman political science major Shelby Mathews said. “You can throw Frisbees, get tan or study, and it’s just a great place to hang out with your friends.”

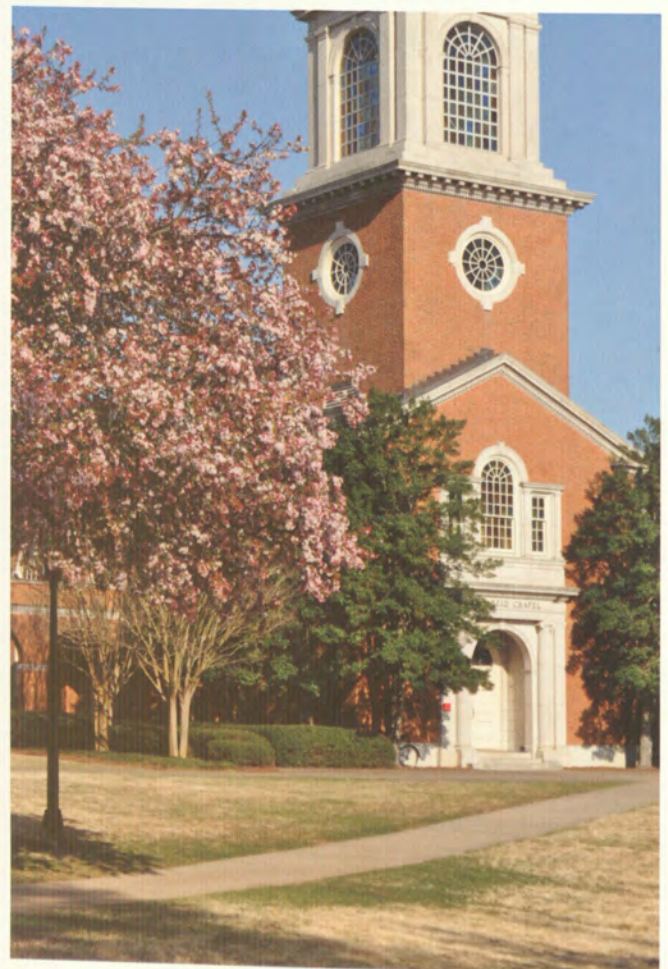
From its tall and beautiful trees and weaving sidewalks to the crazy squirrels and chipmunks that thought they owned the place and the gorgeous buildings surrounding it, the Quad had something for everyone.

Senior accounting major Justin Warden said he enjoyed the Quad like everyone else. “The Quad is the place to waste time; the Quad is the place to cherish time; time is well spent while on the Quad,” Warden said.

College could stress out anyone. Finals, projects, papers, jobs, friends, sports, church, relationships and homework all brought a lot of anxiety into students lives.

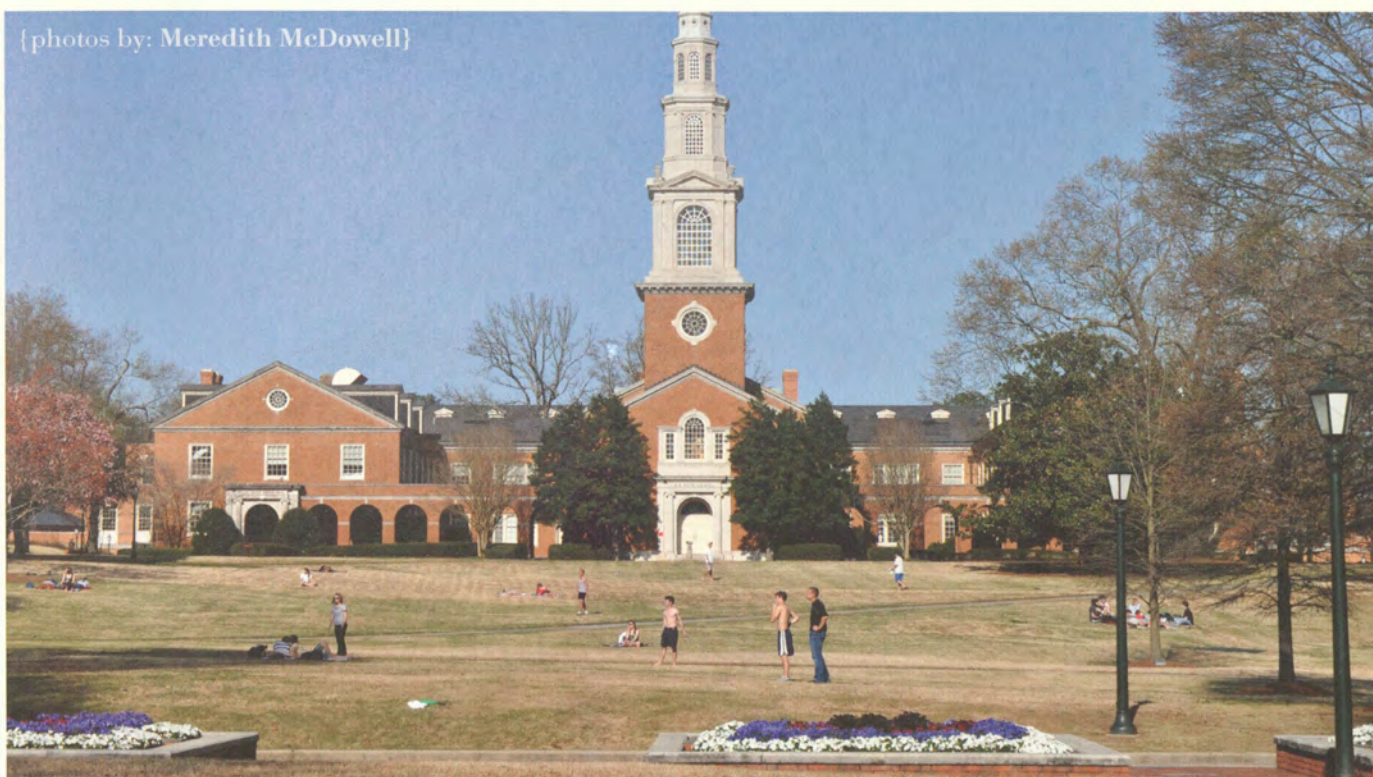
The Quad was perhaps the only place on campus students could go to forget all of their cares and just focus on having fun for a while. Clearly, this gorgeous, green piece of land was much more than dirt and grass.

“Flying Frisbees, warm naps, ‘studying’ and so much more is a part of the escape the Quad can be,” freshman pre-business major Stephen Burgess said. “It is a place that allows one to kick back and forget the academic realm, if only for a moment.”





{photos by: Meredith McDowell}







{photo by: Evan Chandlee}



{photo by: Meredith McDowell}



{photo by: Meredith McDowell}



{photo by: Don Orr}



{photo by: Meredith McDowell}

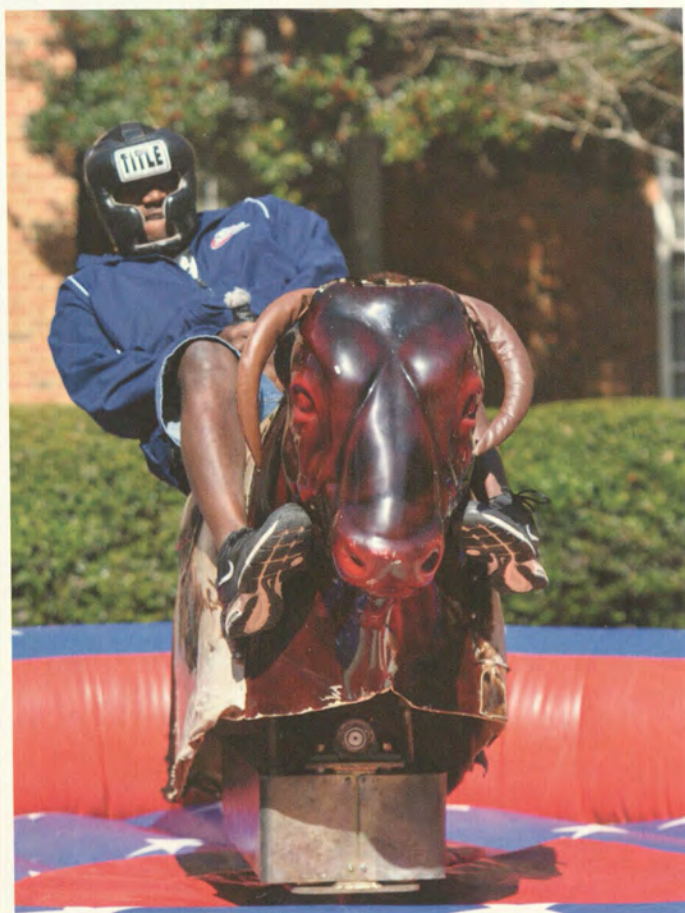


{photo by: Evan Chandlee}





{photos by: Evan Chandlee}





# Today

*2009-2010 experienced many new events  
and changes on campus throughout  
the school year.*



{ photo by: Malynda Mesler }







"Hmm, that's a tough one. There are several contenders, but **I think getting engaged wins.**" -Katie Cassaway, senior English major

"**Driving 9 hours to Orlando to watch Samford Football.**" -Mary Evelyn Todd, sophomore international relations major

"This past fall, **fifteen of my friends and I road-tripped to Greenville, S.C.,** to watch Samford take on Furman for their homecoming game." -Cameron Collins, freshman economics major

"**Pulling an all-nighter to finish a paper** with Alex Gerrish, Daniel Broderick and Samantha Smith. When we finally went to breakfast after going at it for about eight hours straight, I could barely walk up the stairs, and Alex couldn't stop herself from laughing at everything everyone said. The best breakfast I've ever had." -Kolin Rubel, freshman sports medicine major





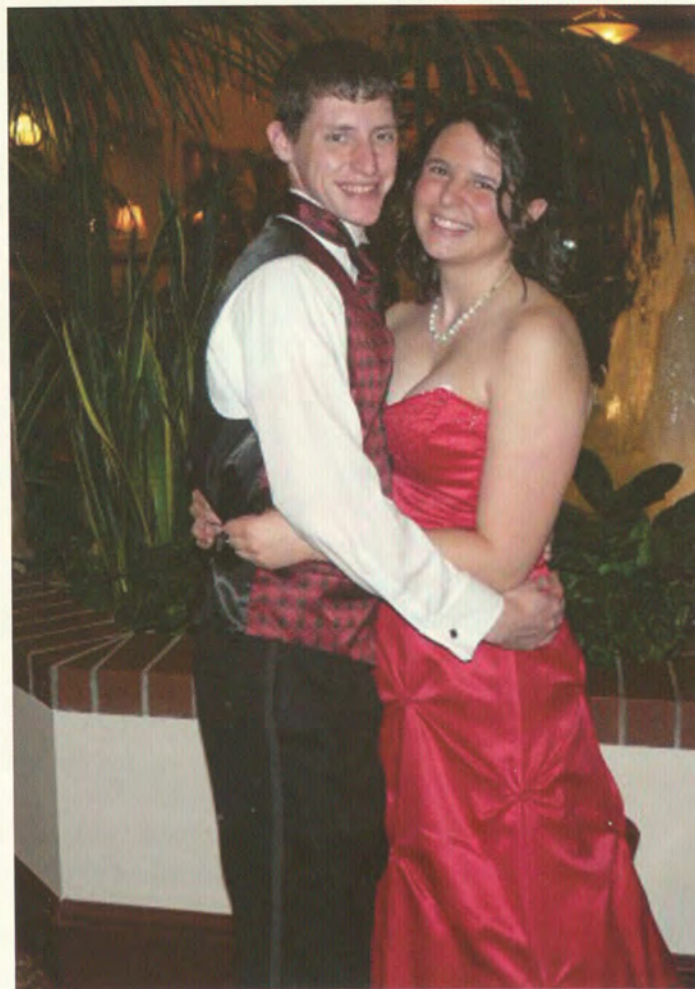
{ photos by: Kim Weatherstone }



"I wrote a script for a movie and filmed it with some of my friends. It was a lot of hard work putting everything together but in the end it was totally worth it to see my vision come to life on the screen." -Grace Moon, senior biology major

"**The Haiti Earthquake.** I work for a ministry in Nashville that takes groups to Haiti about ten times a year. I will never forget the phone call, calling me back to office the night it happened. It was very personal. We got people from our ministry on the ground the next day. It was probably the hardest I've ever worked and the most I've ever cared. Intense doesn't even begin to describe it." -Amy Reynolds, sophomore sociology major

"**Being proposed to** at the Phi Mu Alpha/ Delta Omicron formal." -Jennifer McGraw, junior family studies major





# A new year, new look

*Arriving on campus in mid-August  
brought many new emotions  
and aspirations.*  
*by Kellie Dickinson*

Everyone hoped for a great school year and expected to feel and find something new. Without a doubt, the year brought remarkable growth for Samford. Let's take a look back at campus to see the year's new additions.

Before we make our way around campus, we first notice the sticker on the front of the windshield. In August 2009, the parking decal moved to a temporary inside position. The new stickers helped Public Safety admit students into campus at night without seeing an I.D.

Some students did not understand the purpose of the new decals. "You can't tell a Samford car as easily anymore, or who is who," senior family studies major Maggie Worthington said. "I really don't know why they changed it."

The first thing we see at the west gate is the Cooney Family Field House, which opened in August. The 39,000-square-foot, \$7.5 million facility was funded entirely by private donations, with the largest gift from Gary Cooney, a 1974 alumnus and vice president of one of the nation's leading insurance brokerage firms. The building has two levels of offices, locker rooms, practice facilities, storage and more.

The new athletic facility impressed freshman pre-pharmacy major Morgan Taylor since her first days at Samford. "I just can't get over how beautiful the football field and new field house are," she said. "I am more than proud to say that I am a Samford Bulldog with our gorgeous facilities."

As we make our way to the front doors of the University Center, we see The Hub. Previously referred to as The Fish Bowl, The Hub provided miscellaneous information to students 24 hours a day.

Sophomore sports medicine major Hailey Rogers worked the 12-5 a.m. shift at The Hub and received some surprising calls. "Every time the phone rings, I never know what to expect," she said. "People ask some pretty strange things at 2 a.m. I remember getting a call, more than once, about non-existent floods in Vail Hall."

Samford launched its first major website update in more than two years. Samford revealed its new logo the summer before, and the website came hand-in-hand. The new logo was the image of the familiar belltower atop Davis Library.

Another technological advancement was the "Samford Chronicle," a video news magazine focused on campus events. Brad Radice, a Birmingham sports reporter, filmed the magazine and communicated the Samford story to the community.

Perhaps the largest new addition to Samford was the class of 2013. Causing Vail and Smith to burst at the seams, more than 750 freshmen poured onto campus in the fall.

We've concluded our tour of campus. Everywhere we looked, we saw something improved or updated. Samford keeps growing day after day, and the changes continue to make it the place we know and love.

**Top** The Cooney Family Field House, complete with two levels of offices, locker rooms, weight room and more, opened in August.

**Bottom Left** Although the rose garden was dedicated in May 2009, this year was the first entire year students enjoyed the sight. The garden was a gift from Bonnie Bolding in memory of her mother.

**Middle Right** The Office of Communication launched a website upgrade in the fall. With it came an updated official Samford logo.

**Bottom Right** Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, The Hub began in August 2009.





{ photos by: Kim Weatherstone }



Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Greek Life Competition Academics



# Class of 2013

by Anne Marie Pope

## Enrolled

Total: 737

Male: 248

Female: 489

Class of 2012 enrolled 708. '13 shows little less than 4% growth.

## Academics

Average GPA: 3.7

Top 10% of class: 124

Valedictorian/Salutatorian: 40

National Merit Finalists: 15

## Campus Life

Out of State: 72%

Central Campus Parking Permits: 667

Housing at capacity

## Admissions

(New) Yield events- dinner, video, Q&A; major cities- Dallas, Atlanta, and Louisville.

"The class of 2013 is such an amazing group of people who are combined through a common purpose: we all love Samford. What makes us unique is that we are so diverse and so different from each other because of our different walks of life, yet we all have such powerful common drives that push us to the things we want to achieve

most in life, whatever that may be."

-Freshman Pre-law and International Relations double major Andrew Mays

"The most unique thing about my class would be our enthusiasm to be at Samford and to make it an even better environment than it already is. We are involved in a wide variety of organizations across campus. We are one of a kind. During freshman year, I have really enjoyed getting to know the people here at Samford, not just my fellow schoolmates but everyone. From the president to the staffers in the caf, there are great people here, and it's so fun to get to know them all."

-Freshman undeclared major Reed Richardson



{photo by: Meredith McDowell}





{ photos by: Evan Chandlee }





# Committed to Safety

*Safety on U.S. college campuses became a much discussed issue during the past decade.*  
by Matt Roberts

At Virginia Tech in 2007, senior undergraduate Seung-Hui Cho killed 32 people and himself in a shooting rampage. In February 2010, at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, Amy Bishop, a biology professor, shot and killed three people.

Samford, like most universities nationwide, underwent the process of strengthening its Department of Public Safety to prevent such tragedies from happening on its campus.

Samford bid farewell to Bobby Breed, chief of public safety, who spent a seven-year career at the university. Breed's accomplishments included expanding parking, establishing blue light emergency phones, implementing a 24-hour safety escort system, providing courses on identity theft and safety for students and instituting the Rave-alert system.

Vice President for Operations and Planning Sarah Latham was charged with the task of procuring a new chief of Public Safety. Latham spoke with The Samford Crimson about the new direction she hoped to take the department.

"Virginia Tech changed the face of Public Safety, and we all worked together to change our philosophy for security here at Samford," said Latham. "In the future, I want Campus Safety to have three main goals: safety, emergency management and education. However, at the heart, I want to focus on relationships."

Former Birmingham Chief of Police and Alabama Director of Public Safety Mike Coppage joined Samford as the new director of public safety. His job was to initiate the restructuring of the department.

Coppage had extensive experience in public safety. He worked for the Birmingham Police Department for 24 years, beginning in 1974, serving as chief of police from 1998 to 2003. During that time, the Birmingham News named him one of the top ten influential leaders in government. Alabama Governor Bob Riley appointed Coppage as the director of the Alabama Department of Public

Safety where he served until his retirement in 2006. Riley called Coppage a "veteran law enforcer" with "invaluable" leadership and management skills.

Under Coppage's leadership, the department of public safety had numerous duties, including the responsibility for campus security, 24-hour emergency response, law enforcement and investigative service, nighttime campus access control and security patrol, safety escort, lost-and-found, battery jump start and unlocking vehicles.

"It's everyone's job, whether student or faculty, to make this campus a safe place to live, work and learn," Coppage said.

The job, though, did not go without challenge.

"This job has offered a challenge," Coppage said. "There's always something that could happen. Law enforcement is everyone's responsibility."

On Sept. 8, Public Safety officers received an emergency call about the death of senior Jim Griffin, who had died in his residence hall.

On Oct. 26, a Public Safety officer fired two shots at the vehicle of a University Bookstore shoplifter who attempted to hit the officer with his car.

A rash of car burglaries was reported with more than a dozen cases of unauthorized breaking and entering of motor vehicles.

Coppage defined the mission of Public Safety in three words: courtesy, service and protection. Whether responding to a student with a dead car battery or walking through the halls of a building, it was the business of offering those three services that Samford's Public Safety officers took seriously.





# 24/7 convenience

*For years, the only place on campus available for service 24 hours a day was Campus Safety, and administrators felt this was not enough.*  
by Sarah M. Miller

They found that Campus Safety was answering more questions associated with campus life, which took them away from focusing on the safety of the school.

Samford needed a place where questions regarding events, location hours and other miscellaneous concerns could be answered. In response to this need, the Operations and Planning division created The Hub. A 24-hour information center, The Hub officially opened on Aug. 17, and remained open since, closing only for major holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas.

For freshmen, this new center served as a way for students to feel less lost. "The first couple of weeks, I had a lot of questions like where this class room was or when the caf hours were," freshman fine arts major Kaleigh Warwick said. "When I called The Hub, someone answered right away and helped me. I don't know what I would have done without it."

Located in the University Center, The Hub was in the middle of campus. One could easily walk up or call with any question and talk to a person directly. Lauren Taylor, director of residence life and university services, said convenience was one of The Hub's main goals.

"We want The Hub to be the go-to place for students," Taylor said. "We hope to expand The Hub by providing even more services for students."

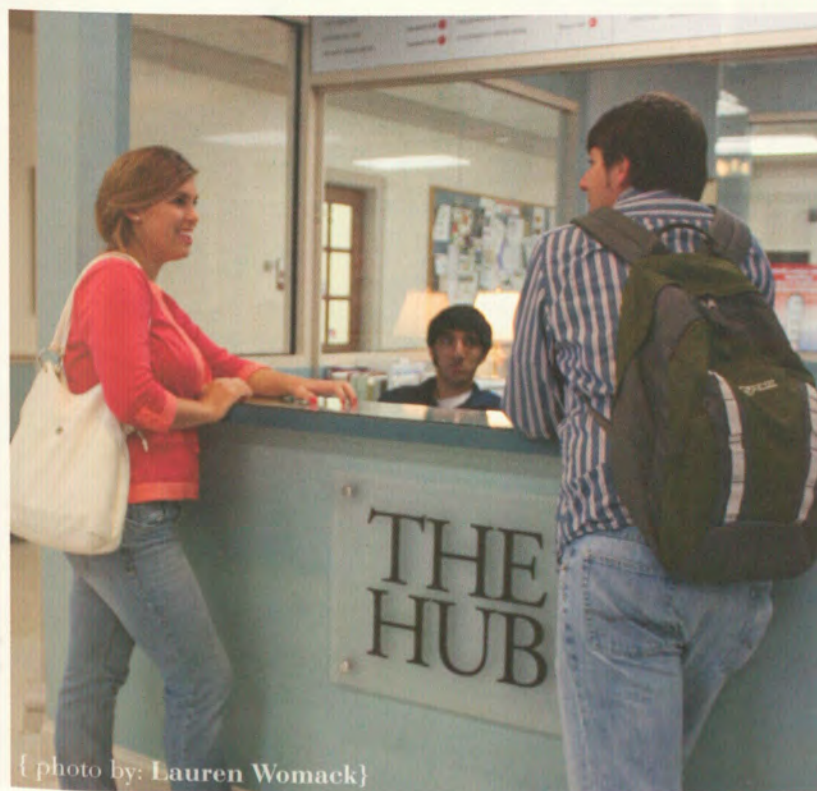
These services could include package pickup, dry cleaning services and possibly a bike rental service.

For upperclassmen, the new service was definitely noticed. Unlike freshmen, upperclassmen have experienced Samford life without the convenience of The Hub.

Junior political science major Matthew Culbreth said, "In my first years at Samford, there wasn't a place I felt I could just call and get my question answered. I usually just asked a friend or a teacher, but sometimes, they didn't know themselves."

Although Culbreth said he did not call The Hub many times, he said, "I like the idea that there is someone who can help me whenever I might have a question."

The Hub mission: accomplished.



{ photo by: Lauren Womack }



{ photo by: Brittney Harrison }

Above The hub provides bikes for students to check out and ride around campus.





{ photos by: Don Orr }





# Surviving the Swine

*Catching an illness is not uncommon on college campuses.*

*By: Sarah M. Waller*

Living in residence halls and interacting daily with peers, one is bound to get sick now and then. In the fall, students battled a new kind of sickness. H1N1, or more commonly known as the swine flu, swept through university campuses across the country. Many students did not think much of H1N1 before coming back for classes in August. "I didn't think it would come here," freshman religion major Ryan Gaines said. "I honestly wasn't that worried about it."

Views quickly changed after the first weeks of class. The first cases appeared on campus, and the "fight against the swine" went into full effect. Hand sanitizer stations in the cafeteria and other public places saw more use, and teachers were reminded to tell students if they showed symptoms of the flu not to come to class. Administration kept students well-informed and added an H1N1 information tab to the portal. Those who felt under the weather often jumped to the conclusion of H1N1, but Samford fared well in the number of reported cases. According to Health Services, by October, the number of cases had risen to around 200. For some, this number was surprising. "People seemed to be catching the swine flu left and right," junior nursing major Cailin Sutton said. "Everyone was constantly talking about it. You would think the number would have

been much higher." Shauna N. Yelton, director of Health Services, said she found a trend in H1N1 cases on campus. "Initially we were seeing a high number of freshmen being affected," she said. "My suspicion is that it may have been due to freshmen moving in early for Connections. This trend did not continue past the first two weeks of school."

Those who caught H1N1 were quarantined to their rooms until they were feverless for more than 24 hours. Roommates were forced to find other sleeping arrangements, and meals were delivered to the sick. "I was basically miserable for five days," freshman communication major Jane Marie Hutcheson said. After coming down with a fever and testing positive for H1N1, Hutcheson opted to return home instead of staying at Samford to recover. This option was highly recommended by Health Services. "I didn't live that far away, so I took the option of going home so I wouldn't get my roommate sick. Luckily, she didn't catch it," Hutcheson said.

H1N1 saw its peak early in the year but slowed in early October. Those who caught it and recovered felt as if they survived the "swine'09." Others felt lucky for surviving the season without catching it.



# Thinking green

*The 2009-2010 school year  
brought an era of "thinking  
green" to campus.*

*by Lacy Craig*

In an effort to get involved in the nationwide push for a cleaner environment, Samford kept up its green techniques with a tray-less cafeteria, recycling bins and the school-wide Green Clean. Our Caf saved countless gallons of clean water with the absence of those food trays.

Did anyone notice the convenient recycling bins in Ben Brown Plaza? It was so easy for students to do their part and toss their soda bottles from the food court into the recycling bin right next to the trashcan. In addition, 20 more locations around campus had recycling bins.

The effort to "go green" reached beyond campus life and created better awareness in students' own lives. "We have a recycling bin in our room," sophomore English major Lindsey Crider said. "It's easy to take it down to the recycling dumpster every week. The efforts on campus raised our own awareness of the environment."

Professors and administrators also got into the excitement by making their classes more environment-friendly. Freshman elementary education major Mollie Tyler said, "Even teachers are getting on board by not printing out dozens of syllabi and instead posting everything on Blackboard in order to save paper."

Green Clean consumed the month of August and was a great opportunity to clean out all old technology and outdated belongings. Students, faculty and staff got rid of all their old junk or had it replaced with newer technology. Everything collected was recycled, donated or kept to sell in the go green garage sale. The proceeds from the sale went toward the school's green efforts. This service was completely free and a great opportunity to give back by saving landfill space or providing for someone less fortunate.

The motivation behind the go green efforts lay primarily within a line from the foundational statements. One of the core values of the university was to maintain good "stewardship of all resources." The going green program provided an opportunity for Samford to do its part to maintain the little piece of the world in which it resides.





{ photos by: Don Orr }





{photos by: Don Orr}



# Fads, Fashions, and Trends

*In the 70s, it was  
bell-bottomed pants  
and lava lamps.*

*by Katie Willis*

The 80s? Hard rock, MTV and Pac-man. In the 90s, it was Baywatch and Forrest Gump. Everyone, everywhere, in every time period experienced trends and fads, some lasting only months and others lasting years.

So what trends and fads were students experiencing on our very own campus? When it comes to clothing, everywhere one turned he or she was bound to see The North Face, Patagonia, Chacos, leggings and aviator sunglasses, to name a few.

Freshman journalism and mass communication major Ben Johnson said he noticed another fad around campus, TOMS shoes, and he certainly was not in on that trend. "What's the deal with Toms? They don't look cool, they don't seem that comfortable, and it just appears to be a cheap way to make you feel better about yourself. If you really want to help out, ship a pair of Nikes to Africa," Johnson said.

One common denominator among practically all of campus, however, was that notorious time waster, procrastination inducer and sleep inhibitor, Facebook. The ever-growing, increasingly popular website became the most used social network worldwide, leaving Myspace in the dust. From middle schoolers to grandparents, people of all ages became a part of this worldwide craze, and students were no exception.

"I look at Facebook as a way to maintain contact and share experiences with other people," senior journalism

and mass communication major Franklin Graves said.

"Some people see it as an addiction, but I really look at it as a secondary form of communication. Yes, I believe face-to-face is better than online, but when used appropriately, Facebook expands my social interactions rather than overshadowing or replacing them completely."

Another increasingly popular trend on campus was the abbreviation of words typical in everyday speech. These new catchphrases included, but were in no way limited to, "legit" for "legitimate," "presh" for "precious," "ridic" for "ridiculous," and "perf" for "perfect."

As for food fads, YoMo, more commonly known as Yogurt Mountain, was quite an addiction. Newly opened in Cahaba Heights, it seemed to be all anyone talked about after school began. At almost any given time during the day, a visit to YoMo would bring about a reunion of friends and acquaintances from campus.

"The secret to being a successful Samford student," freshman family studies major Laura Ruth Stubbs said, "is to visit YoMo once a week, replace all pants with leggings, post every inner thought on Twitter, view at least 200 Facebook pictures a day and abbreviate all words containing more than two syllables. Then you, too, can be totes legit."



# Samford Mourns Loss of Student Athlete

*Senior Jim Griffin was found dead the morning of September 8 in his residence hall. According to a press release from the Samford Office of Communication, Griffin, 23, is thought to have died in his sleep.*

*by Melissa McBride and Blake Tommey*

*Appeared in The Samford Crimson on Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Griffin, a sociology major from Chicago, Ill., had been a member of the Samford Basketball team since his freshman year and was set to play forward this season.

"I've known him for over five years," Jimmy Tillette said, head basketball coach for men's basketball. "I recruited him from high school. We're obviously completely in shock and just trying to figure out how to move forward."

"This is a devastating loss for the Griffin family and the entire Samford community. Jim was a beloved figure on the basketball team and across the campus," President Andy Westmoreland said.

Westmoreland went on to say that Samford's coaching staff and student athletes were struck particularly hard by Griffin's passing.

"We're doing all we can to reach out to them, but we also acknowledge that words are virtually meaningless during times like these," he said.

"All of the team had a great affection for Jim," Tillette said. "Right now, everybody is just trying to figure out how to make it through the day. His team members are really upset, and people have been crying all day. We've postponed all basketball activities through the weekend."

Bryan Friday, senior public administration major, played forward on the team alongside Griffin.

"It's a devastating day," Friday said. "The team and I still feel like we're going to see him when we go to dinner tonight and practice tomorrow."

Senior exercise science major Jennifer Elkins has been friends with Griffin since her first year at Samford.

"He meant a great deal to me. I am a fifth year senior, just like he was, so we've been through our entire Samford experience together. He was always someone I could crack jokes with," Elkins said. "Everyone liked Jimbo and liked to be around him."

"This is the biggest tragedy to happen to me at Samford," senior Asa Ackerson said. "Jim was a fun-loving, laid back guy. He was smart and without a doubt the hardest worker on the court. No one hustled like Jim."

But it was not only his teammates that Griffin called close friends. He also maintained a good relationship with his coach.

"We were actually pretty close," Tillette said. "Jim was

a big sports fan. Because he was from Chicago, he was a big White Sox fan. I like the Yankees, so we used to go back and forth and mess with each other during games."

Tillette heard about Griffin's death when he didn't show up to his Tuesday morning workout.

"When we were about halfway through the workout, the head trainer came in and told me. I was stunned," he said.

Tillette spoke to Griffin's father and sister on the phone and was told they, along with his mother and brother, were going to try to come to Samford on Wednesday.

"We're going to have a Samford ceremony for him," Tillette said.

One thing remains certain. Jim was a beloved member of the Samford community and will be greatly missed by many.

"It's going to be tough," Friday, "but we're going to dedicate this whole season to him and carry him in our hearts for the rest of our lives."

"It is never easy when any life is lost, but it is more difficult to lose one of such great promise," Westmoreland said. "If our faith means anything, it is of special importance in moments like these. We are relying on that faith right now."

"He was a very affable and gregarious guy with a great sense of humor. I don't know anybody who didn't appreciate what he did," Tillette said. "We didn't just lose Jim the athlete; we lost Jim the person."

"He was a friend to everyone he met and gave his all to this basketball program and his teammates," Ackerson said. "He will be greatly missed."

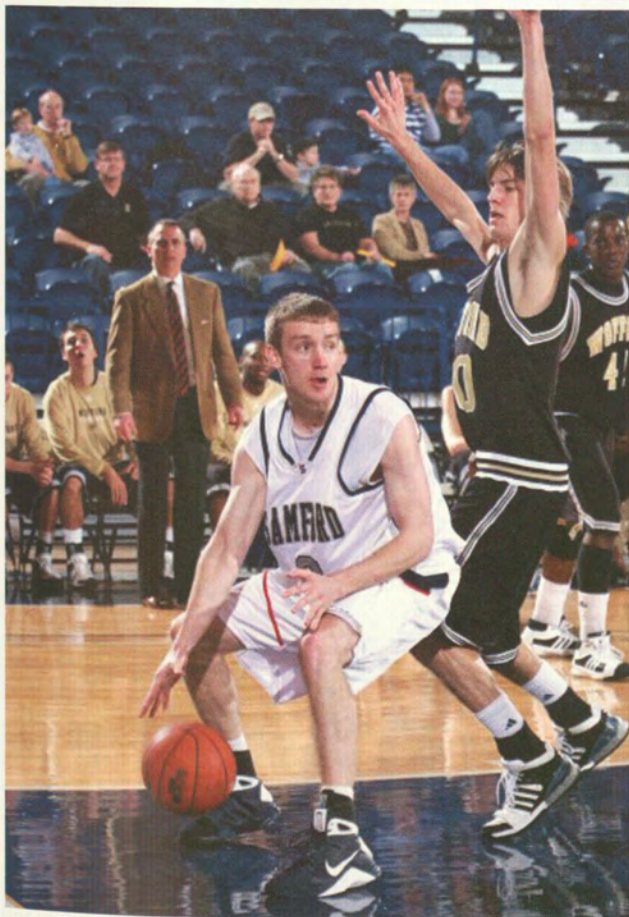
"I still can't believe he's gone. It does not seem possible that I will never see his smiling face again or laugh at anymore of his jokes," Elkins said. "Samford has not only lost a great teammate on the court, but off the court, as well."

A memorial service for Griffin was held Thursday, Sept. 10, in Reid Chapel. Tillette, Friday, Westmoreland, Griffin's roommate and teammate senior family studies major Trey Montgomery, Griffin's advisor sociology professor Hugh Floyed, minister to the university Matt Kerlin and Griffin's sister all shared their memories of Griffin with the Samford community.





{ photo by: Jordan Jarvis }







These photos are courtesy of world news



October 2, 2009: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, wins bid to host 2016 Winter Olympic games, becoming the first South American city to host.

November 20, 2009: Afghan president, Hamid Karzai, begins his second term in office.

December 24, 2009: The United States Senate passes its health care reform bill, with a 60-39 partisan vote.

January 12, 2010: A 7.0 magnitude earthquake destroys Port-au-Prince, Haiti, with an estimated death toll of two hundred thousand people.

February 7, 2010: The New Orleans Saints defeat the Indianapolis Colts 31-17 in Super Bowl XLIV.

September 30, 2009: An 8.0 magnitude earthquake kills more than 700 people on Indonesian island of Sumatra.

November 4, 2009: The New York Yankees win their twenty-seventh World Series title.

November 23, 2009: South Carolina governor Mark Sanford faces thirty seven charges of using his office for his own financial gain. These charges follow his admittance of an extramarital affair in June.

January 19, 2010: Scott Brown (R) takes a Senate seat for Massachusetts, bringing an end the Democratic super majority in the Senate.



These photos are courtesy of world news



*February 12, 2010:* Amy Bishop, a professor at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, kills three and wounds three in a shooting rampage.

*April 5, 2010:* Duke University wins the Men's NCAA Basketball Championship, defeating Butler University 61-59.

*April 23, 2010:* A controversial immigration law is signed into action by Governor Jan Brewer (R) of Arizona.

*May 2, 2010:* Police find a bomb in a van parked in Times Square, New York City. After investigation, officials announce that it is likely the Pakistani Taliban played a role in the plot.



*February 12, 2010:* Olympic luger from Georgia, Nodar Kumaritashvili dies in training for the 2010 Olympic Games in Vancouver, Canada.

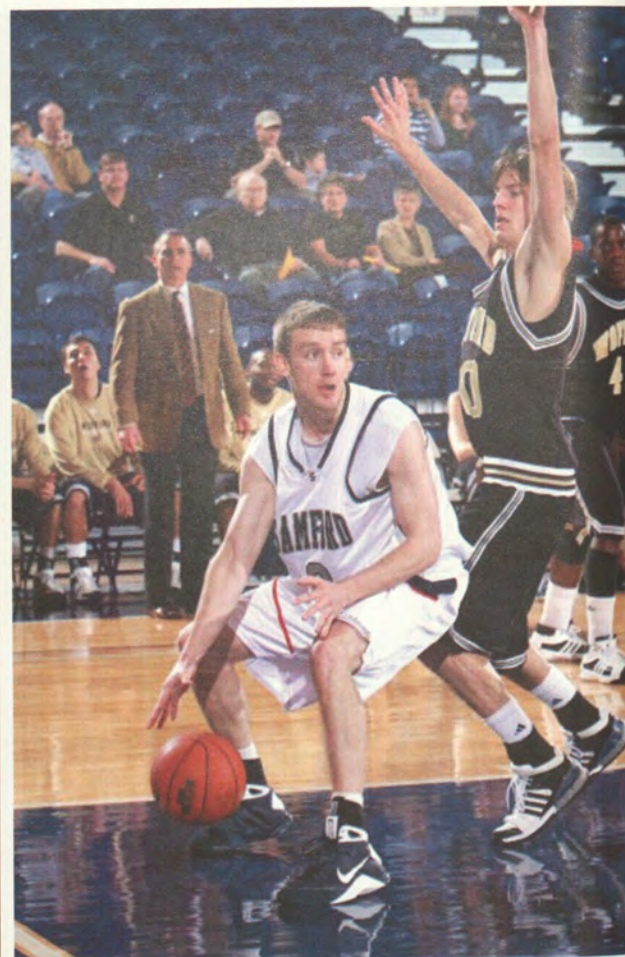
*March 8, 2010:* Kathryn Bigelow wins an Oscar for Best Director, while her film *The Hurt Locker* wins Best Picture.

*April 6, 2010:* The University of Connecticut wins the Women's NCAA Basketball Championship, defeating Stanford University 53-47.

*May 1, 2010:* SuperSaver wins the Kentucky Derby, ridden by jockey Calvin Borel, who has three of the past four winners.

*May 11, 2010:* British prime minister Gordon Brown resigns his position, recognizing that his Labour Party will be unable to gain a majority in Parliament. He recommends Conservative David Cameron as his successor.





*September 2009:* The H1N1 virus, also known as the swine flu, breaks out on campus.

*October 6, 2009:* University Ministries sponsors the Go Global Fair to raise awareness for international missions work.

*October 9, 2009:* President Westmoreland announces an ambitious two hundred million dollar capital campaign.

*October 26, 2009:* A public safety officer fires shots at a University Book-store shoplifter.

*November 2, 2009:* A concert with Sister Hazel kicks off the Homecoming Festivities.

*January 2009:* Three Samford students are caught in the chaos of the Haiti earthquake.

*September 10, 2009:* Memorial Service held for senior Jim Griffin held in Reid Chapel. Griffin passed away suddenly in his sleep on September 8.

*September 23, 2009:* With Banned Books Week, student celebrated free speech.

*October 7, 2009:* Samford for Life pulls together the Student Advisory Council in an effort to increase students' awareness of and gratitude for donations from Samford alums.

*November 2009:* Dr. Jon Clemmensen is honored in the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Celebration of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications.

*November 30, 2009:* The Samford Secrets exhibit finishes its month long display.





*February 17, 2010:* Residence Life announces a second living-learning community for students in health-related professions will open in Fall 2010.

*March 27, 2010:* Samford Gives Back, and students from all over campus join together to be involved in the local Birmingham community.

*April 28-30, 2010:* Spring Fling includes a Wing Fling in Ben Brown Plaza, Battle of the Bands, and a Mat Kearney concert on the quad.

*April 30, 2010:* The theater department debuts Thoroughly Modern Millie

*May 14-15:* Spring Commencement

*January 16, 2010:* The Brock School of Business' Social Entrepreneurship program is named the 2010 National Outstanding Emerging Entrepreneurship Program.

*February 20, 2010:* Dudes a Plenty wins the Step Sing Sweepstakes.

*April 12-16, 2010:* Active Minds, a campus group promoting mental health, sponsors Stress Prevention Week.

*April 30, 2010:* Social justice organizations both on and off campus present the "Tunnel of Oppression" to raise awareness for both domestic and international issues.

*May 3, 2010:* The Department of Journalism and Mass Communications releases Exodus magazine.



{photo by: Leah Jane Henderson}



{photo by: Timothy Willis}

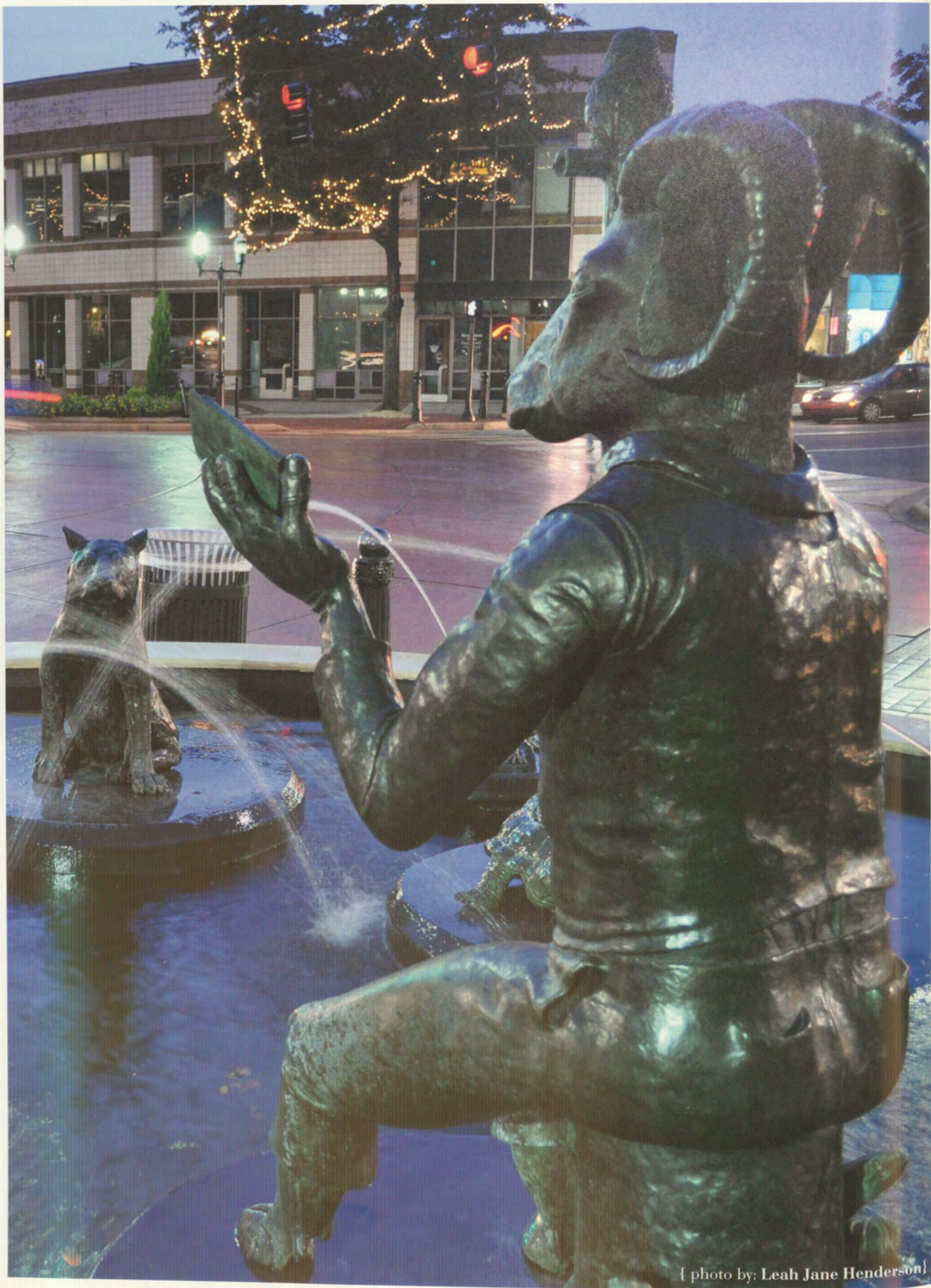


{photos by: Malynda Mesler}









{ photo by: Leah Jane Henderson }



# Birmingham

*The places to eat, play, study, shop,  
and explore, all within the  
magical city of Birmingham*







# Places to Eat

*With so many restaurants in  
Birmingham to choose, students  
are still able to claim their favorites.  
compiled by Ashlie Williams*

## *Rosemarie's Special Teas*

"The food is divine and the staff is friendly. It is a dining experience. There is frilly lace, fine china and fresh flowers on every table."

Kourtnei Dingler, sophomore English major

## *Seikisui*

"There are TVs and a small pit of fire where the chefs cook in front of you at each table. The inside is beautiful with waterfalls and bamboo scattered around. The atmosphere is fun, and the food is spectacular. My favorite food is Ginza, Korean barbeque in the form of a dragon."

Katie Clark, senior psychology major

## *Giano's*

"I love Giano's because it is one of the few 'mom and pop' restaurants around. The food is great, and I like being able to talk to the owner directly. I know my concerns and opinions matter to him."

John Stegemann, senior biochemistry major

## *Surin West*

"Surin West is the best Thai food in Birmingham."

Jordan Burt, sophomore pharmacy major

## *Salem's Diner*

"I love Salem's Diner because Wayne, the owner, is great and he always remembers my order."

Sydney Davis, junior exercise science major

## *Hunan Wok*

"Hunan Wok is an awesome place. Their egg drop soup is happiness in a bowl, and it's cheap."

Lexie Roberts, sophomore biology major

## *Flip Burger*

"Flip Burger is my favorite new restaurant—unique burgers and fries with a fun atmosphere. What could be better?"

Lindley Holder, senior exercise science major

## *Jackson's*

"I love Jackson's. They have the best dessert, cookie dough egg rolls. You can't get it anywhere else."

Rose-Confidence Anyanwoke, sophomore biology major

## *Moe's Southwest Grill*

"Moe's knows."

Addison McDowell, business major

## *Subway*

"Call me simple or apathetic, but I am a fan of the meatball \$5-foot-long at Subway. It's a good thing to share with my girlfriend Abby."

Goodson McLemore, freshman biology major

## *Nabeel's*

"It's more than your standard American fare, they have great food, and there's a sweet old man who sometimes plays the accordion."

Katie Gassaway, senior English major

## *Mountain Brook Creamery*

"It is in the beautiful area of Mountain Brook and resembles an old-fashioned ice cream hang out."

Elizabeth Haley Davis, sophomore interior design major

## *Mr. Chen*

"I love any kind of Asian food. One of my favorite Asian places is Mr. Chen on Highway 31. Not only is the food extremely good but you can also get fruit flavored bubble tea afterwards with tapioca pearls. If you've never tried it before you need to."

Grace Moon, senior biology major

## *Tip Top Grill*

"It's this tiny place on the top of a mountain with seating outside or inside next to big windows. The atmosphere is really laid back, and it's just like a relief. The food is cheap and the view is great."

Amy Reynolds, sophomore sociology major

## *Golden Temple Restaurant*

"It's all organic food and they have a store with ethnic food that you can't find anywhere else."

Rachel Snyder, sophomore English major



# Places to Worship

*With over 1,000 churches in Birmingham, students are able to connect with a church body of faith.*

## *Altadena Valley Presbyterian Church*

"They meet in this beautiful white church, the pastor preaches the gospel, and the music is wonderful. But I especially love the people- it's small enough to get to know people without being too small, and there have been wonderful people to mentor me and proclaim Christ's amazing love to my life through their testimonies, and their faith and service. The music was a big factor in why I chose the church- there is a good variety and mixture of instruments, and a mix of new and old songs- ones we sing all the time, and ones I've never heard before; I worship a lot through music, and I like to have good variety in that. I came for the music but stayed for the people."

-Erin Wert, senior nursing major

## *Faith Presbyterian Church on Valleydale Road*

"The first aspect that stood out to me about the church was their welcoming nature and Christ-like fellowship. I have truly felt part of a family through the body of Christ at this Church. Also, the music is primarily from Red Mountain Church and I love it! The preaching is grounded in the word and challenges me every week to face my sin which causes a desire for a deeper relationship with Christ. I enjoy the people my age, but love interacting with the families as well. I love helping in the nursery and talking with the couples old enough to be my grandparents, too."

-Amanda McPhail, senior math education major

## *Inverness Vineyard Church*

"It challenges me to grow more intimate and bolder in my relationship with Jesus. Also, it is a smaller church and I have been going there for a while, so it always has been a place for community building and a place where I feel accepted every time I walk through the doors."

-Catherine Skewes, sophomore English major

## *Canterbury United Methodist in Mountain Brook*

"I started going there because I am a youth intern there, and now I have fallen in love with the whole church. The people are wonderful, welcoming, and I love the contemporary worship service. I always get something out of the sermons, and the music is great."

-Laura Donnelly, junior nursing major

## *Shades Mountain Baptist Church*

"I love it because the music is fantastic, and I get to go to a Sunday school where the teachers remember my name."

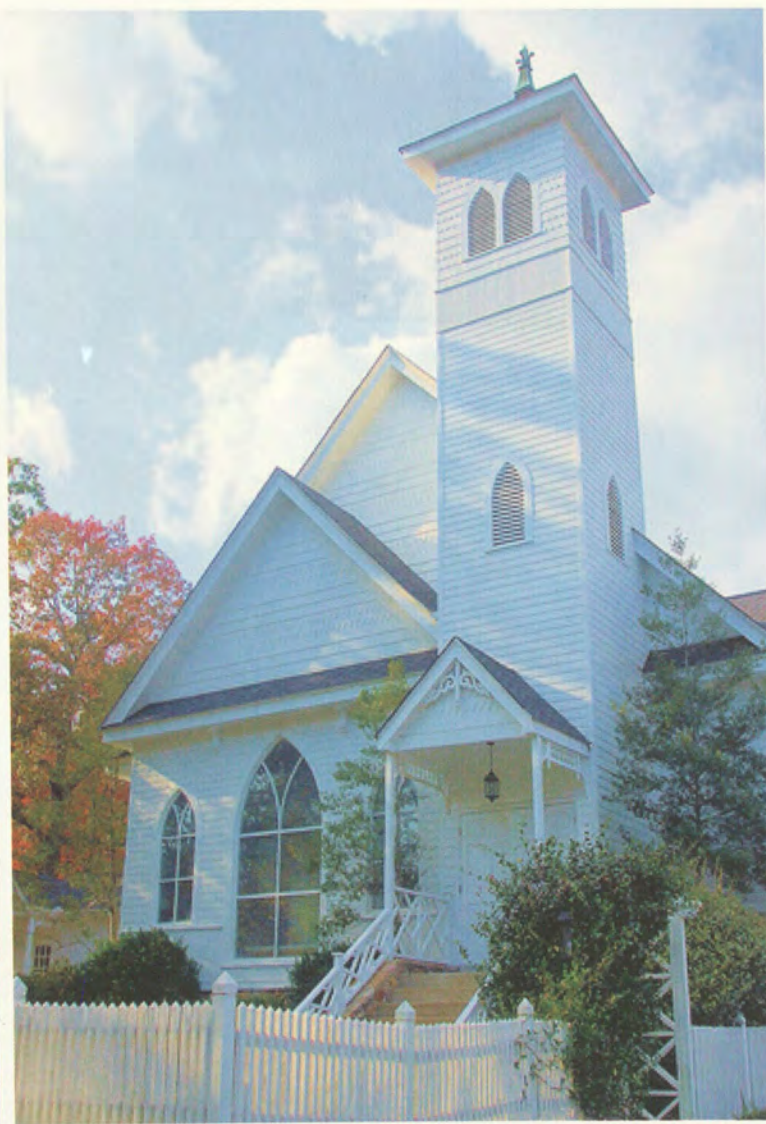
-Christine Taylor, senior English major

## *Church of the Highlands*

"It is a non-denominational church and an amazing place to meet with God. There are plenty of service times which are accommodating to all college students. Church of the Highlands has upbeat worship and an incredible pastor who meets his congregation right where they are."

-Ryann Headley, sophomore history major





[ photo by: Malinda Mesler ]





{ photos by: Rebecca Tischler }



# Places to Study

*From the closed corners of a dorm room to the change of scenery and atmosphere off campus, students have different preferences of places when it comes to studying.*

"I like to find really interesting places around Birmingham, so it can be like an adventure while I still get things done. A really good place is The Red Cat, this coffeeshouse downtown on 28th or 29th. It's pretty tucked away and a very chill, inspiring place, where I can focus and be creative."

-Amy Reynolds, sophomore sociology major

"Barnes and Noble."

-Morgan Rhinehart, sophomore nursing major

"Yogurt Mountain."

-Erin McGuire, sophomore business major

"Panera."

-DuBose Ratchford, sophomore journalism and mass communications and English double major

"I typically go to Starbucks, either in Wildwood or Mountain Brook. I seem to get more work done in an environment off campus with no Internet access."

-Jennifer McGraw, junior family studies major



**Above:** The campus library never fails to attract a faithful crowd of students, especially at all hours of the night before closing. It also proves to be the social place when study breaks are necessary.



# P Places to Shop

*From the Summit to the Galleria to  
downtown Homewood, Birmingham  
provides a variety of convenient  
places to shop.*

*compiled by Lauren Womack*

## *The Summit*

"My favorite shopping experience this year was going with my roommate and one of my hall mates to The Summit for the first time. We walked around so much that our legs were sore the next day, but it was an absolutely great time."

-Jackie Long, freshman journalism and mass communication major

## *Anthropologie*

"For unique and trendy items, I always go to Anthropologie at the Summit. Expensive, yes, but all their stores have a sale room. You can get a \$98 top for \$9.95!"

-Molly Braswell, senior public administration major

## *Smith's Variety*

"Smith's Variety store has exactly what its name says: a variety of merchandise ranging from cute gifts and novelty items, to kitchen utensils and kids toys. It's a great place to shop for gifts and their selection never disappoints. Even if I don't buy anything, Smith's Variety is my favorite place to just browse."

-Brittany Todd, senior journalism and mass communication major

## *Lotus Boutique*

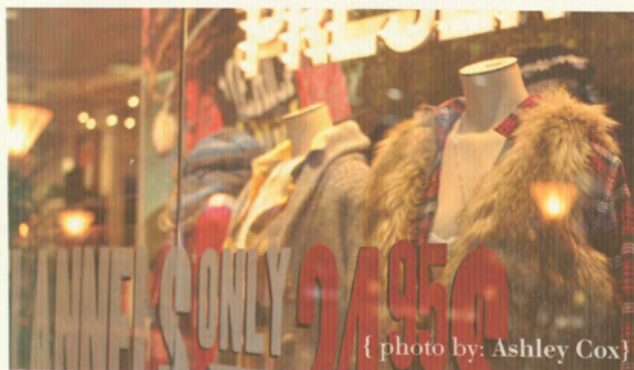
"Lotus Boutique at the Summit and the Galleria is my favorite. They have awesome clothes at good prices, from cute dresses to belts and shoes."

-Dani Darby, junior biology major

## *T.J. Maxx*

"T.J. Maxx on Highway 31 is one of my favorite places to shop," junior biology major Martha Acton said. "It's all about the bargains, plus you can find really great shoes there."

-Martha Acton, junior biology major



{ photo by: Ashley Cox }

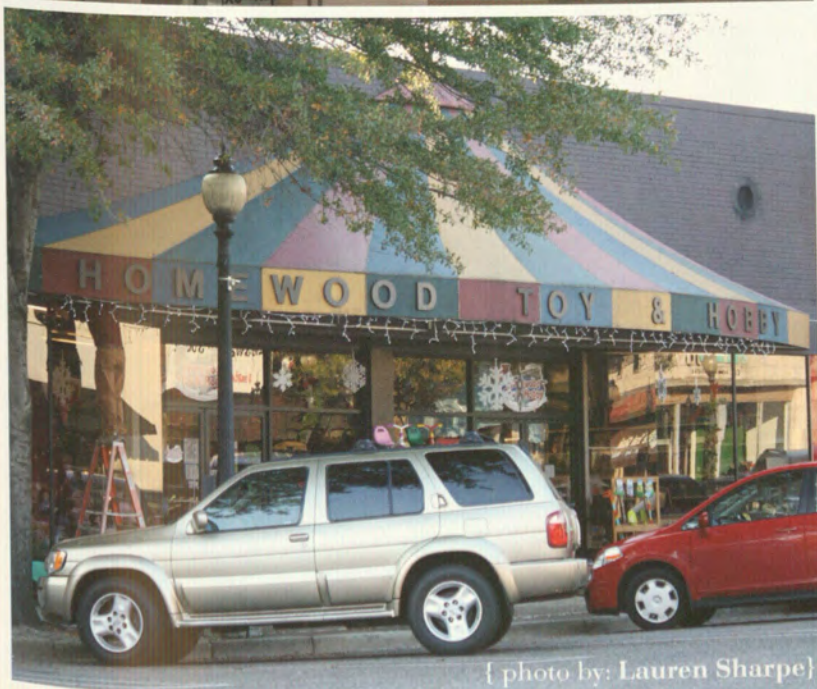




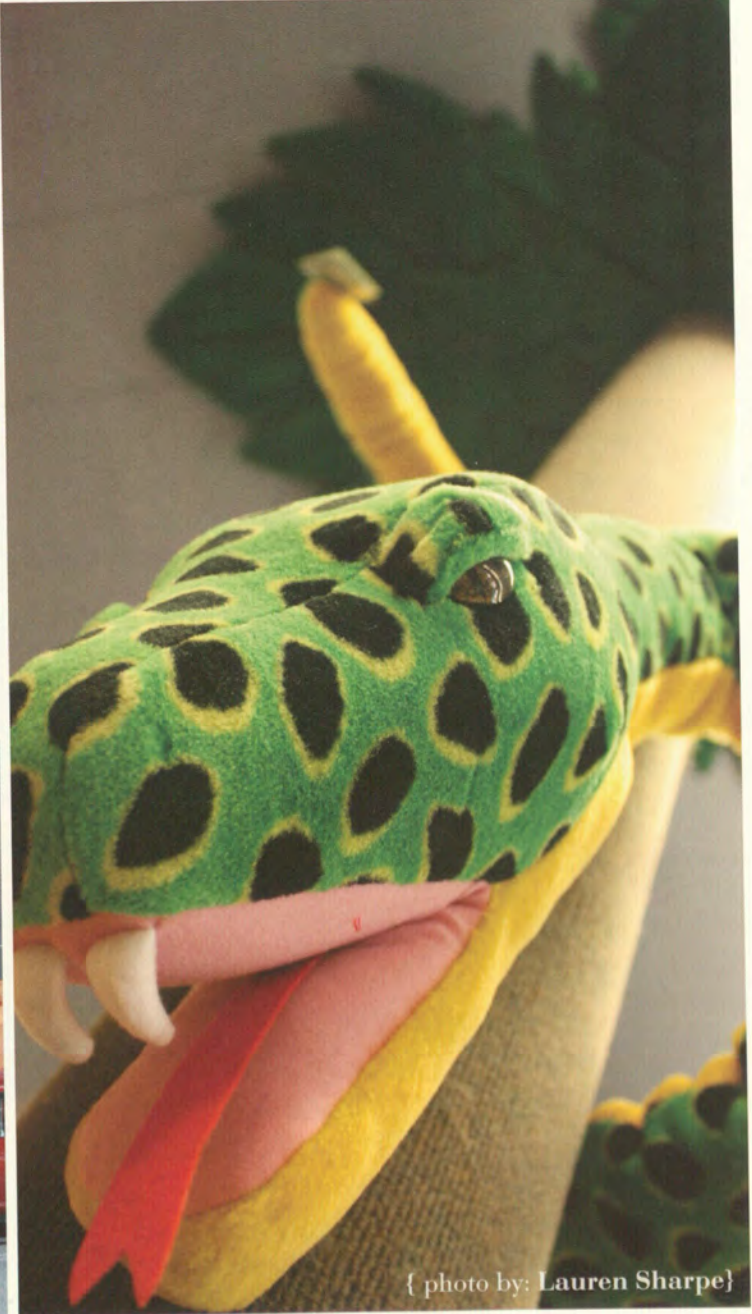
{ photo by: Ashley Cox }



{ photo by: Ashley Cox }



{ photo by: Lauren Sharpe }



{ photo by: Lauren Sharpe }



# Places to Explore

*With so much to do in Birmingham, the possibilities of adventure are endless.*  
*compiled by Ashley Cox*

## *Downtown Birmingham*

"The view of the city contains so much history behind it."  
-Jessica Bonner, senior English and communication studies major

## *Oak Mountain State Park*

"I've been camping there before, and they have a nice campground."  
-Bethany Belser, senior family studies major

"They have good hiking trails, and I want to do the paddle boats there."  
-Brooke Elkins, freshman undecided major

## *Downtown Homewood*

"There is so much to do, and there are a lot of neat shops to go into."  
-Ruth Anne Crews, freshman journalism and mass communication major

"One of my favorite things to do in Birmingham is to walk up and down the strip of old downtown Homewood, making stops at the shops and eating areas."  
-Stephen Mills, junior history major

## *Homewood*

"I enjoy driving around and getting lost in nice neighborhoods around Homewood."  
-Caroline Harbin, freshman English major

## *Botanical Gardens*

"The flowers are beautiful, and the peace there overwhelms you."  
-Maggie Kuruk, sophomore psychology major

"Japanese garden is my favorite part because it is so different than anything else there."  
-Brittany Morgan, senior nursing major

## *Birmingham parks and Vulcan*

"You get a great view of the city of Birmingham, and they have really nice parks."  
-Kendall James, sophomore psychology major

## *Boulder Fields*

"The boulder fields are a ton of fun and completely free."  
Christian McGuire, sophomore nursing major



**Above:** Freshmen Claire Heard and Lauren Williams spend the afternoon rock climbing with friends at Boulder Fields.



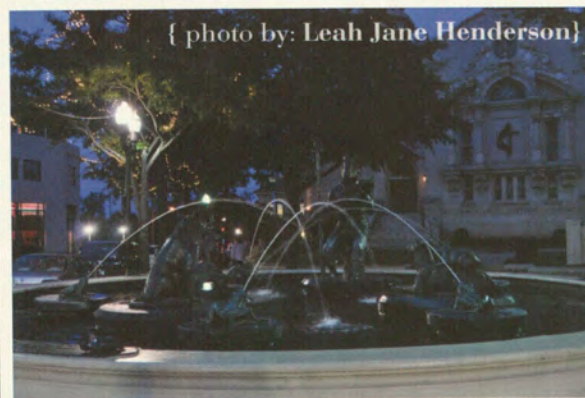


**Left:** The Vulcan is the prime location to overlook the city of Birmingham.

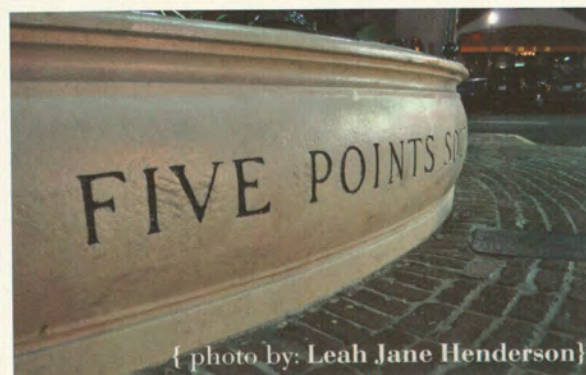
**Below:** The Botanical Gardens experienced the beauty of a white winter this year.



{ photo by: Malynda Mesler }



{ photo by: Leah Jane Henderson }



{ photo by: Leah Jane Henderson }

**Above:** Five Points is the place to experience city life, especially at night. A popular place among students at Five Points is Starbucks.

**Left:** Junior graphic design major Malynda Mesler and Brady McLaughlin enjoy hiking at Oak Mountain State Park on the Pea Vine Trail.

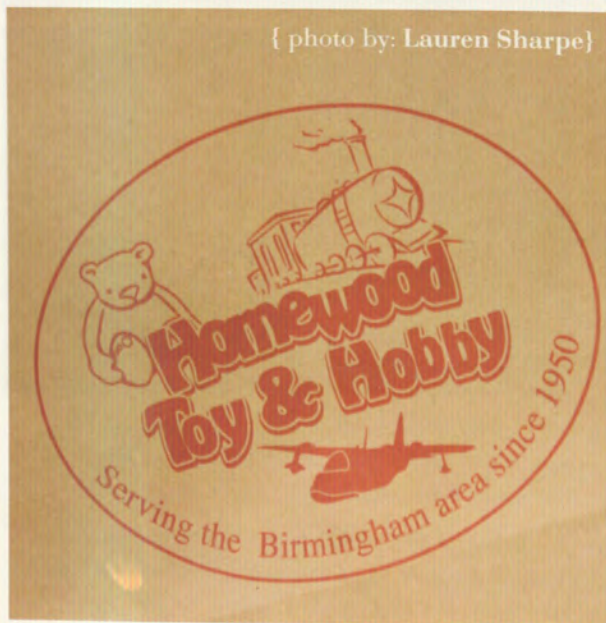


{ photo by: Malynda Mesler }





{ photo by: Lauren Sharpe }

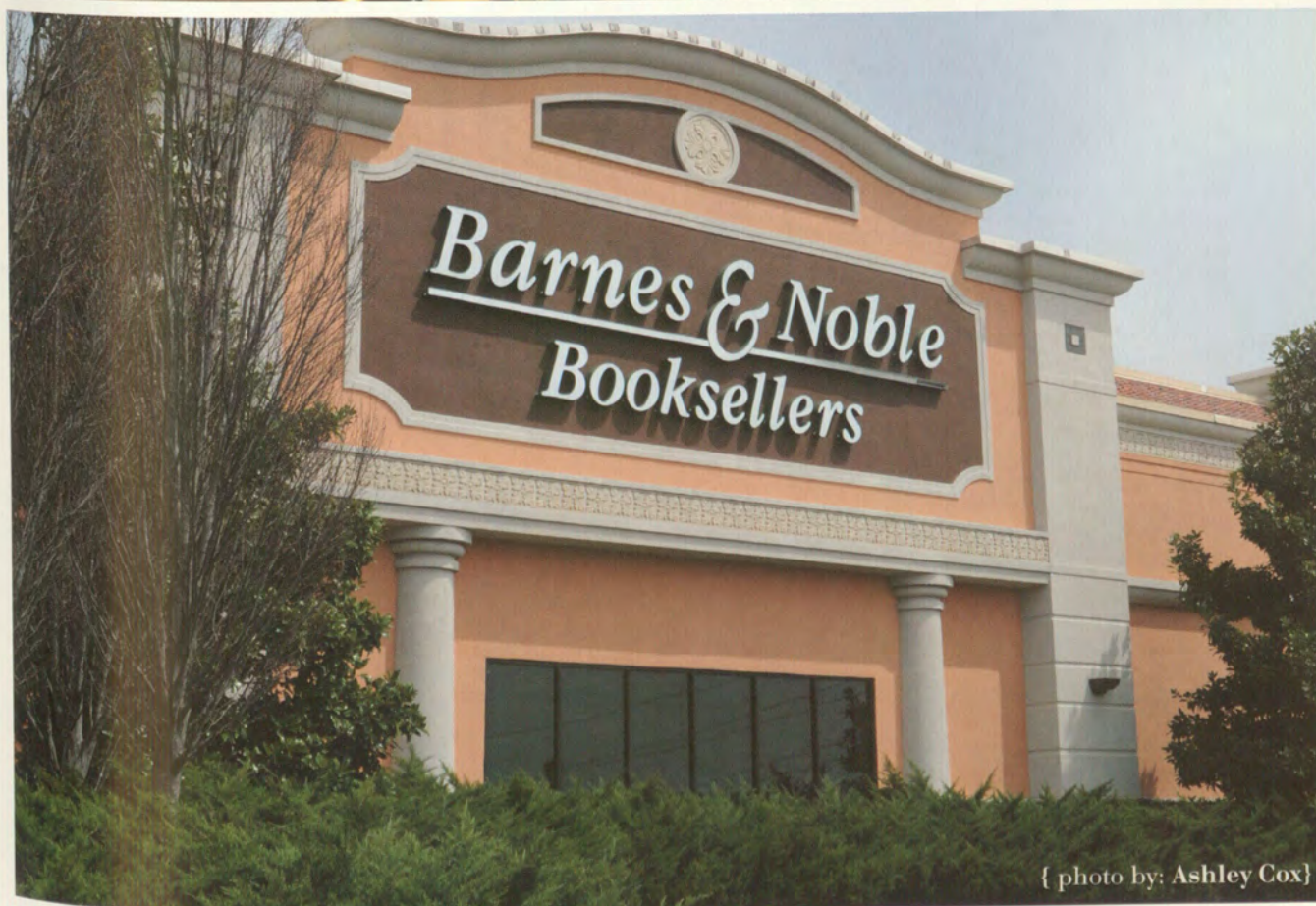


{ photo by: Rebecca Tischler }





{ photo by: Ashley Cox }



{ photo by: Ashley Cox }



# Faith

*The root of spiritual growth for  
Samford students through  
campus ministries  
and missions.*



{ photo by: Malynda Mesler }





"The majority of the people represent Jesus."  
-Kent Glover, sophomore biology major

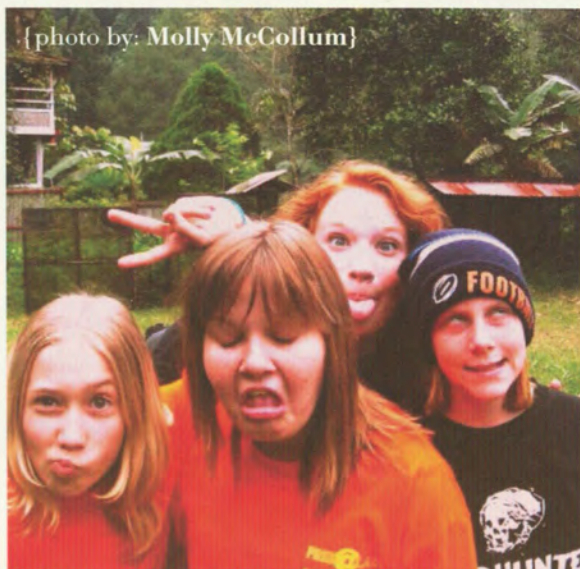
"Being surrounded by peers and classmates who care, seeing everyone in the light of Christ rather than just a number."  
-Sandi Steinbacher, junior family studies and Spanish double major

"Faith-based institution."  
-Carlton Baker, freshman Spanish major

"University based on Christian practices of faith."  
Matt McMillan, sophomore religion major

"A university that upholds Christian belief, God-glorifying education."  
Victoria Stone, senior English major

"A place you can feel unified with students and faculty."  
Catherine Skewes, sophomore English major



"University that combines God with learning."  
-Ryland Robbins, freshman undeclared major

"I love the fact that I attend a Christian university. Because my faith comes first in my life, I think it is important to place myself in an environment that encourages spiritual growth and inspires me to explore some aspects of the Christian faith itself."  
-Megan Main, senior journalism and mass communication major

"Free to bring Christ to class and where Christianity is fair game to talk about."  
-Nathan Johnson, sophomore philosophy and religion double major

"Something Christ has brought into the classrooms."  
-Laura Edwards, freshman Spanish major



{photo by: Molly McCollum}



{photo by: Rebecca Tischler}



"A place where you can grow more in your knowledge of God and where you don't have a fear of being persecuted for your faith."

-Sarah Frasier, freshman history major

"A Christian university enables me to better understand the thoughts and ideas that shape society and realize that Christianity and western culture can never be separated because of the influence they both have on each other."

-Caroline Miliam, junior English major

{photo by: Lauren Sharpe}



{photo by: Lauren Sharpe}

{photo by: Meghan McCollum}



"A Christian university is a way for many students to connect with their faith. Often, we are so busy with school, work, family and other responsibilities that we have little time for our spirituality. Samford helps aid this transition through convocation, bible study groups, worship services, etc. A Christian university, I believe, definitely helps students balance time between faith and work."

-Trinity Henderson, sophomore biology major

"Everything we do is to glorify God. Learning and everything goes back to God."

-Brittany Morgan, senior nursing major



# Following Christ to the Nations

*Matthew 28:19 says, "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."*

*by Logan Heim*

Meghan McCollum, sophomore education major, and her twin sister, Molly McCollum, sophomore geography major, interpreted this verse as a calling to participate in mission work overseas.

"I found that by serving other people in the Lord's name my joy grew," Meghan said. "Because of what God has done in my heart, I have no other option than to let that love spill out onto other people."

Meghan was also inspired by the University Ministries motto: Love God, Love People, Change the World.

Meghan traveled to the Dominican Republic with her home church, Hebron Baptist Church in Dacula, Ga. The missions group worked in house-to-house evangelizing, food distribution, sports ministry and medical examinations. Meghan worked with kids in villages and orphanages.

She said each day "was always beautiful chaos completely orchestrated by God."

"I would play with the kids, painting fingernails, making balloon animals, and teaching little Bible lessons," said Meghan.

Meghan's sister Molly traveled to Indonesia in June through University Ministries with a team of five students. Tyler Sellers, assistant director of student Involvement for activities, and his wife and son accompanied the students. Jeanna Westmoreland joined the group as well.

an the journey in Karawaci, where the students served as ambassadors to Christian university Universitas Pelita Harapan.

"As we spent time getting to know the students, we were able to simply enjoy the blessing of fellowship with brothers and sisters in Indonesia," Molly said. "We shared much about Samford and our vision for them, but learned much more."

The group also visited a village school referred to as a "home for frustrated men." The men suffer from mental illness or addiction, and the group prayed over them as they

pursued Christ.

After leaving Karawaci, the group served in Yogyakarta with a local missionary family. They spent a few days in the city before heading to the mountains to serve as camp counselors for missionary kids in Southeast Asia.

Both Meghan and Molly said their mission work altered their perspectives. "The mission work that the Lord has enabled me to do has forever changed the way I look at the world and society," Meghan said. "It physically hurts me to see a brother or sister in need. Our world is filled with poverty, violence and disease. (It is) a world the Lord did not intend for his beloved, but we now have the responsibility to make a change, to truly be the change we wish to see in the world."

Molly said she was impacted by both her trip to Indonesia and a previous trip to Kenya, Africa. "Ultimately, I can say that a broadened worldview has made me not only more conscious of the global church and its varying experiences, but also of the experience of mankind in general," Molly said. "I believe wholeheartedly that traveling and seeing things for yourself is key in understanding just how alike we all truly are."



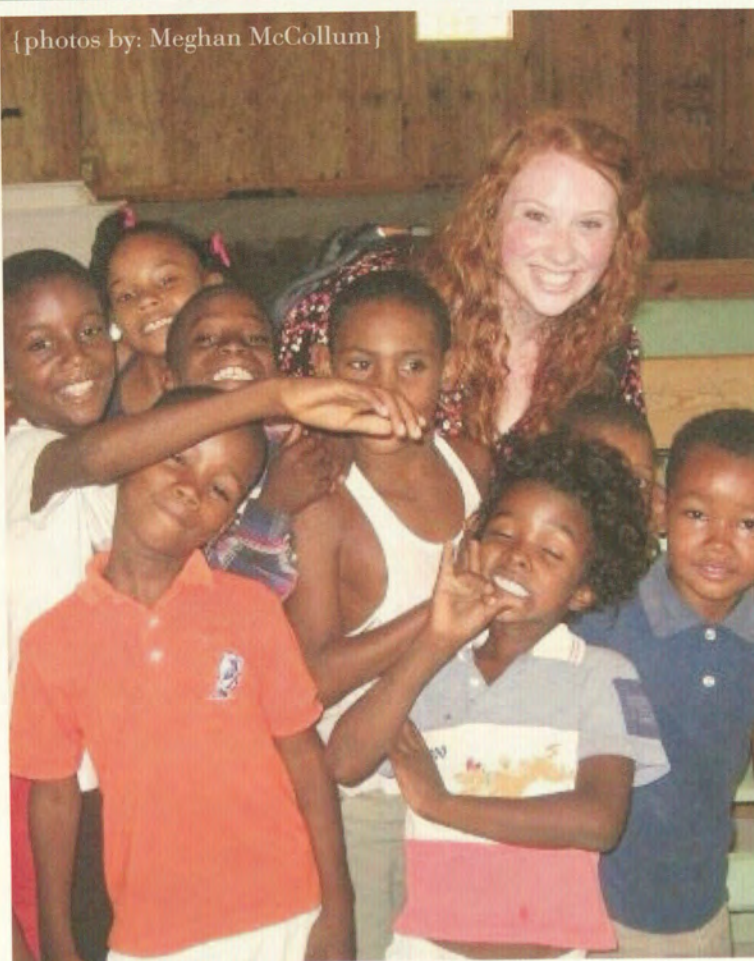




{photos by: Molly McCollum}



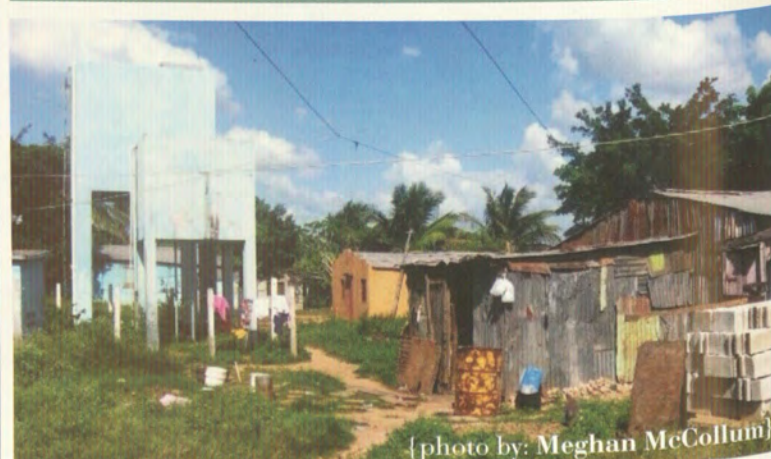
{photos by: Lauren Sharpe}



{photos by: Meghan McCollum}



{photos by: Lauren Sharpe}



{photo by: Meghan McCollum}



# A place to grow

*This UM could be no better defined than by its mission statement, "University Ministries strives to engage heart, soul, mind, and strength in the pursuit of knowing God and making Him known."*

*by Mary Grace Bullard*

UM could be no better defined than by its mission statement, "University Ministries strives to engage heart, soul, mind and strength in the pursuit of knowing God and making him known." From Shiloh to cadres, to mission trips and service projects, students always had an opportunity to grow spiritually through University Ministries.

"I love to see students get excited about serving and to realize, perhaps for the first time in their lives, that they have a larger purpose than merely getting a degree, getting married and making money," minister to students Renee Pitts said.

UM provided a place for students to receive spiritual nourishment, to give back to the community and to get out of the "Samford bubble." This year, UM offered students a new opportunity to increase their perspectives. They partnered with Northstar Youth Ministries, and instead of

sending students to multiple locations around Birmingham, UM sent students to one specific neighborhood, College Hills, so that they could better form relationships with the residents.

"Our hope is that students will bring additional opportunities for learning and growth to the residents of College Hills," minister to students April Robinson said, "but even more importantly, discover that loving our neighbors is about building a mutual relationship that is less about doing for each other and more about being present with one another."

Students were separated into different crews that were both led and staffed by students, and each crew focused on different needs in the community.

Furthermore, UM supplied students with a wide variety of activities to get involved on campus. "With University Ministries, I have organized intramural teams, directed a Step Sing show, led worship in Shiloh and at the FreshMin retreat, gone on a fall break Hurricane Katrina Assistance Trip and led a freshman bible study," senior accounting major Justin Warden said.

The FreshMin ministry is a branch of UM that focused mainly on helping freshmen become acclimated to life away from home. This ministry provided an easy way for freshmen to get involved with UM. "I'd recommend that freshmen go on the FreshMin retreat at the beginning of the year," sophomore English major Daniel Flowers said. With the variety of opportunities through UM, students discovered they could truly engage themselves, heart, soul, mind and strength, to pursue God and spread his glory.







{photos by: Rebecca Tischler}



# Finding a Spiritual Niche

*Shiloh could have been described as amazing, awesome, spiritual and refreshing worship.*

*by Katie Willis*

The Tuesday night program began with everyone seated, listening to the opening music and preparing his or her heart for worship. The lights were low; heads were bowed; and the piano lulled everyone into an attitude of praise and reverence.

People were greeted by senior biology major Chelsea Rushing and Minister to Students Brian Pitts as they led in a time of worship through song. Minister to the University, Matt Kerlin, or Minister to Students April Robinson then preached a sermon followed by communion. After the service, the fellowship continued with the common dessert, which was provided by a different church each week. "In every way, Shiloh has exceeded our expectations," Kerlin said. "Because Shiloh is not your run-of-the-mill worship event, we've never expected it to be attended in mass numbers. Yet, the growth has been remarkable, as well as the fact that we see students from across the spectrum of the Samford community. The students in attendance, as well as those in leadership, have created an atmosphere of

community and genuine worship. For many of us, Shiloh is the highlight of the week."

Reformed University Fellowship also exceeded its standards said Jason Sterlings, the organization's sponsor. "God is at work in RUF," he said. "This year we have more people involved in our ministry than ever before. Our desire is that, as we grow, we would increasingly become an authentic community where the convinced and unconvinced can come and experience the grace and mercy of Jesus."

RUF, much like Shiloh, was a praise and worship program but not connected with University Ministries. It is the official campus ministry of the Presbyterian Church in America. RUF met on Monday nights for singing and worship and "after Hours," held in O Henry's. "After hours" was an opportunity for everyone to fellowship, relax and talk about his or her worship experiences.

Freshman education major Laura Edwards said both worship opportunities were rewarding. "Both programs are exactly what you would expect at a Christian campus such as ours," she said. "They are awesome and beautiful and totally God-centered. The atmospheres are completely different, so some people may be more attracted to one more than the other. But overall, they are both extremely good ways to spend time with our fellow Christians and serve the God that brought us all here to Samford."

**Top** The Shiloh band leads the congregation in the weekly Tuesday evening worship in Hodges Chapel.

**Middle Left** Sponsor Jason Sterlings speaks with RUF attendees at the weekly Monday evening meeting.

**Right** Junior biology major Katie Carroll shares at RUF.

**Bottom Left** Some of the books and Bible studies made available at RUF.



# Exceeding expectations

*Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Samford was one of 7,125 campus chapters the organization used to reach 356,250 people across the nation for Jesus.*  
*by Denevia Thomas and Craig Kleimeyer*

This year, FCA focused on four core values: integrity, service, teamwork and excellence. The vision of FCA was to spread the Christian objective throughout the world, starting at college campuses like Samford.

FCA consisted of students who were living out their calling from God. Freshman journalism and mass communication major Chenelle Terry, also a long jumper and high jumper, was a regular to the Tuesday night gatherings in the gymnasium. "The FCA gathering was a deeply moving experience," she said. "The message was great, and it related to my life."

Junior education major and football cornerback Jamael Lett called FCA a "compilation." "FCA is pertinent to college students in general, not just to athletes," he said. Lett said his favorite part of the FCA experience was when people gave testimonies. "The willingness of people you see, practice and hang with every day, to get in front of you and spill their souls and reaffirm their faith can change your whole outlook on life," Lett said.

Freshman pre-law major and non-athlete Jenae Steele attended FCA meetings with her athlete friends, but she did not go solely because of them. "Even if my friends weren't going to FCA, I would still go," Steele said. This year, FCA was more than just a meeting or social event. It was a life-changing organization that affected many students in positive ways.

Campus Outreach, another Tuesday night ministry organization, exceeded its expectations this year as well. CO focused on seeing the ministry empowered by com-

munion with God through prayer; developing students in leadership through deepening their ownership of the ministry; teaching students to grow in Christ-centered community through learning how to sacrifice for one another; and helping students to grow in their understanding and practice of evangelism and discipleship.

Matt Francisco, CO staff leader, said, "CO's mission is always to reach and disciple college students for the sake of the lost world. We try to pour our lives into college students and try to teach them to do the same so that, wherever they go, for the rest of their lives, their lives will be centered on impacting others for Christ's sake."

Francisco said he and Ryan Akers, the other CO staff leader, were blown away by students' incredible desire to be intentional with students and to surround themselves in Christian community this year. "We regularly packed out Harry's at our weekly meetings, which I think holds probably about 110-120. That was very encouraging," Francisco said.

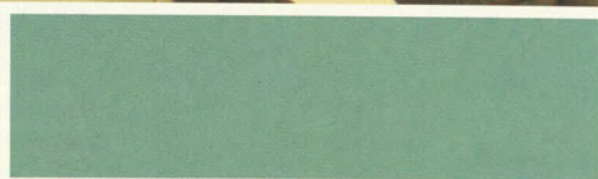
Junior religion major Josh Sheppard decided to get more involved with CO this year and was impressed by the amount of people involved and by Catalyst, the encouraging prayer sessions on Thursday mornings during convocation hour. "It's cool to go to Catalyst on Thursday mornings and spend more than a half hour of prayer together with students," Sheppard said.

CO students also participated in Bible studies and discipleship groups this year. They went to New Year's Conference in Nashville from Dec. 27-31. The conference featured Randy Pope, Aaron Keyes and LeCrae, and more than 1000 students from more than 20 universities worshipped God in one room for five days. From June 1- Aug. 1, 2010, CO was in Ft. Walton, where students worked full-time jobs, grew in communion with God, dealt with sin in the community and learned to share their faith on Beach Project.

FCA and CO taught students to incorporate God into their lives on an everyday basis, and, even more importantly, how to reach people across the nations.



{ photos by: Brittney Harrison }





# Growing Spiritually beyond Campus

*For many students, happenings  
on campus defined their college years.  
by Sarah M. Waller*

While it was easy for students to remain in the comfort of the "Samford bubble," some students wanted to branch out beyond campus and into the community. Through Younglife and University Christian Fellowship, students were able to step out of the campus scene and expand as individuals through community leadership and Christian worship.

Through Younglife college, students could take an activity they participated in during high school and become leaders. Each week, Younglife leaders met with high school students from the surrounding area at The Nest, located near Soho, for a night of fun and games with a message.

Students who wanted to become Younglife leaders had to participate in Quest, a time each week to train spiritually so that they could lead those in Younglife. Quest lasted from October until mid-March, and once completed, students were assigned to a specific high school in the area.

Sophomore elementary education major Stephanie Tuttle finished Quest last year, and this year she worked with Homewood High School students. She said working with Younglife greatly impacted her. "The whole process has deepened my relationship with the Lord so very much, and I thank him every day for placing me in this amazing ministry. It's definitely not something that's for everyone. It's hard emotionally. It can be tiring, and it takes patience and willingness, but all of this makes it that much more rewarding," she said.

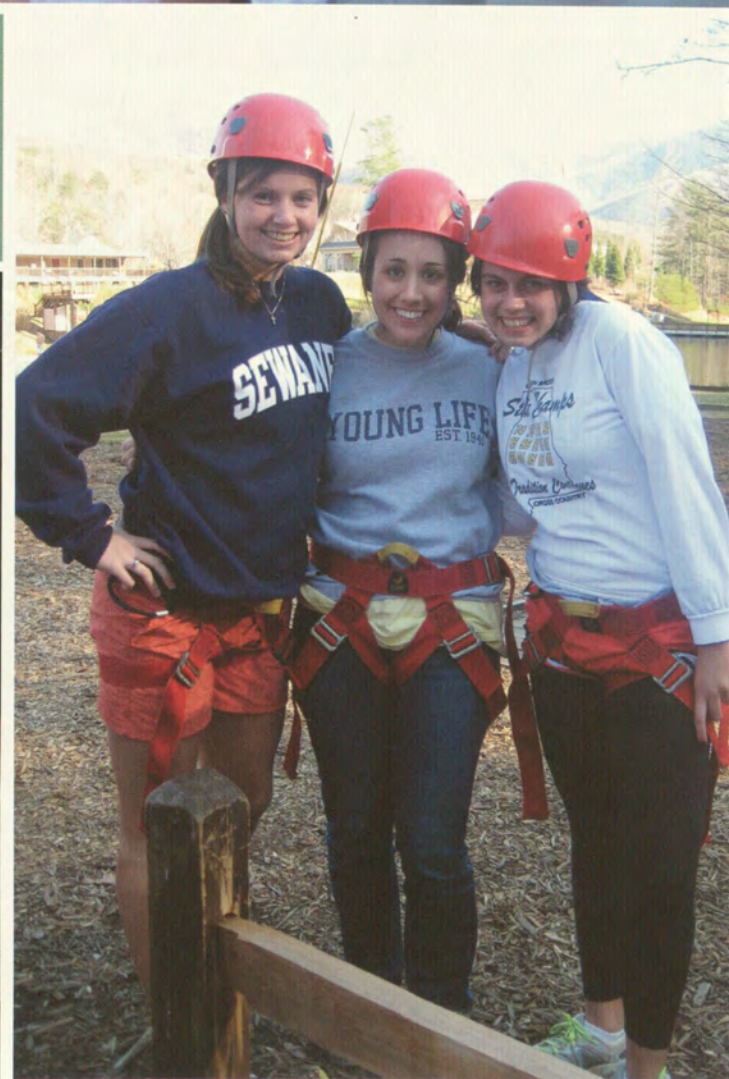
In a different area of town, many Samford students met once a week to minister with one another. University Christian Fellowship was a college ministry led by staff at Mountain Brook Community Church. Every Wednesday night, students from colleges in Birmingham came together for worship.

"I first was interested in coming to UCF because of stories from my sister who graduated before me, but now I go to UCF so I can be involved outside of campus and meet people who go to other schools," undeclared freshman Julie Barr said.

Along with the Wednesday worship services, students participated in retreats and other UCF events, such as pig roasts and bonfires. In November, a group of Samford students joined students from other Birmingham universities for a weekend relationship retreat.

For many Samford seniors, UCF was a part of all four years at Samford. Senior family studies major Bethany Belser said it still has an impact on her life. "UCF is much smaller this year compared to years in the past, but it has become a much more intimate environment, which I have enjoyed," she said. Whether through ministering to high school students or through fellowshiping with one another, both Younglife and UCF provided a place for students to leave the world of Samford and grow in their faiths and as individuals in the real world.











# Singing with a Mission

*Some students entered college as declared music majors, some took classes focused around music and participated in a choir for class credit, and others had different majors but still demonstrated their passion for singing.*

*by Sarah M. Waller*

For the latter, two extracurricular choirs were open to any year, major and skill level. The Samford Ministries and Gospel Choirs provided a faith-based opportunity for students who loved singing and wanted to sing in a group.

The Gospel Choir was the smaller of the two, made up of about 25 students. Senior biology major Rusty Shafford was a member of the choir since his freshman year.

"The Gospel Choir has such a great atmosphere," he said. "We are smaller than other choirs on campus, but the music brings me to practice every week. We sing such great songs."

The Gospel Choir was a student-led organization, and students picked mostly gospel music to sing. Unlike choirs taken for class credit, everyone from the director to the accompanist was a current student.

The Ministries Choir was an active group made up of 50 members. The choir was associated with University Ministries, but like the Gospel Choir, it was completely student-led. Along with practices and concerts, the choir had a strong focus on missions.

Each semester, the group had a service day and connected with an organization in Birmingham. But their missions extended past the city limits. In the fall, the choir went on a mini-tour to Chattanooga, where they performed several concerts and served in areas of the city with the greatest need. During Spring Break, the choir went to Chicago with the same mission in mind.

Freshman pre-pharmacy major Shea Howard went on both the fall and the spring tour and said that both trips left a lasting impression. One day in Chattanooga they worked with an organization called Hope Ministry: Hope for the Inner City. The choir cleaned a house for a couple in desperate need.

"Their house was covered in mold, and there was stuff piled everywhere," Howard said. "It was unlike anything I had ever seen in America. We did not expect to go there, but the work brought us together as a choir."

Although the Ministries Choir and the Gospel Choir were separate groups on campus, each were Christ-centered organizations open to anyone. With weekly practices, each choir formed close bonds.

"Choir, for me, is the people and the relationships. It's a support group. I feel welcomed and loved here," president of the Ministries Choir and senior nursing major Erin Wert said.

The Ministries Choir and the Gospel Choir both came together with a passion for faith and singing and gave their groups a greater purpose. Through their concerts and missions, the Ministries and Gospel Choirs reached outside of the university and impacted people in Birmingham and around the country.







{photo by: Lauren Sharpe}



{photo by: Molly McCollum}



{photo by: Meghan McCollum}





{photo by: Meghan McCollum}



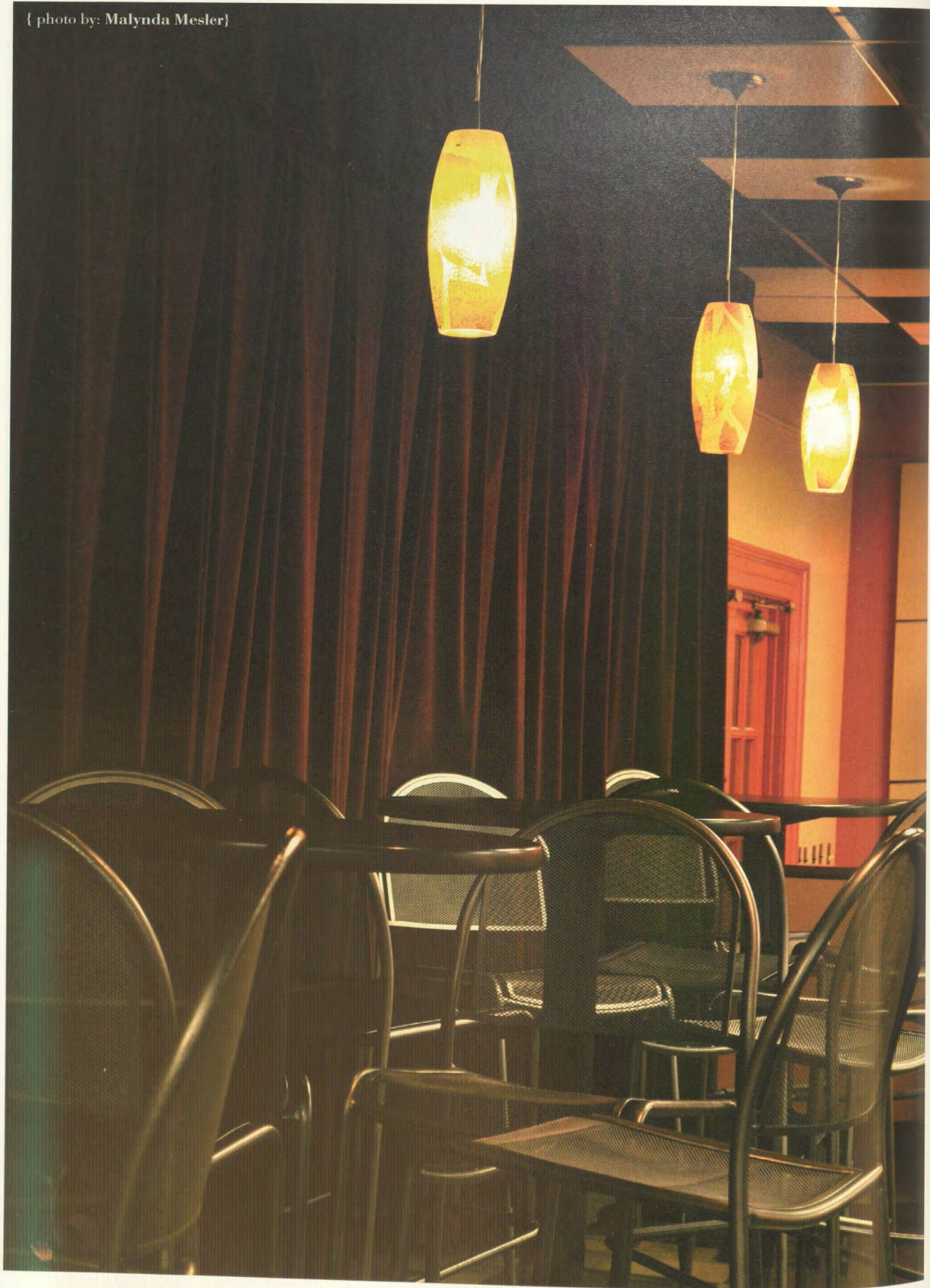
{photo by: Lauren Sharpe}



{photo by: Meghan McCollum}



{ photo by: Malynda Mesler }







# I involvement

*With many ways to get involved  
on campus, there's something  
for everyone.*



{ photo by: Don Orr }



Dudes-A-Plenty: "Being a part of Dudes-A-Plenty as a freshman this year was completely worth all the hours of practice. It also didn't hurt that we took sweepstakes! **Who we be, baby?**"

-Logan Dillard, Freshman, JMC

Step Sing Committee: "**My favorite has been working on Step Sing Committee.** Being able to see all the work it takes to put Step Sing on has just blown me away. I loved getting to know everyone else on committee."

-Nancy Thompson, Junior, Exercise Science

Phi Alpha Theta: "I enjoyed the people and the events we did. We explored the history of Birmingham and surprisingly had fun doing it. **I will take away good friendships** and a laundry list of inside jokes."

-Hunter Marfraiere, Senior, History

Senate: "**I enjoy Senate,** because we get the hands on experience of distributing money and learning to work with a real budget."

-Jerame Hill, Sophomore, Pre-Pharmacy

Intramurals: "**I love the competition** and spending time with the girls in my sorority and do that by playing sports. I've also met a lot of people through intramurals that I will be friends with for a lifetime."

-Sara Tarpley, Sophomore, Elementary Education

University Ministries (Shiloh): **Shiloh has been a get-away and an outlet this semester.** It has been a stress reliever and has kept me on track. Shiloh provides an opportunity for students to worship together in unity as the Body of Christ."

-Carson Legg, Freshman, Sports Medicine

Freshman Representative Council: "Through FRC, **I have gotten to meet many of the prospective students** and have been able to share my Samford experience with those who are considering Samford."

-Jonathan Smalley, Freshman, Sports Medicine

{ photo by: Lauren Womack }





Student Recruitment Team: "I have loved being involved with the Student Recruitment Team. It is nice to be able to give back to the university by helping to recruit the next generation of Samford students."  
-Kendall Shelton, Junior, Entrepreneurship

Dudes-A-Plenty: "I have enjoyed my time with Dude-A-Plenty. It has allowed me to form incredible relationships since freshman year."  
-Ben Telfair, Senior, Religion

Dudes-A-Plenty: "Dudes-A-Plenty provided me with opportunities to develop relationships with some upperclassmen. We all bonded and I can't imagine college without some of these guys. Who we be, baby?"  
-Drew Laing, Freshman, JMC

Community Service Council: "My favorite organization I'm involved with at Samford is Community Service Council. The relationships I've been able to develop with people around Birmingham and my fellow students is something I really treasure. I am so blessed with this opportunity to serve."  
-Anneleyce Alexander, Freshman, Marine Biology

Intramurals: "Intramural tennis encourages camaraderie amongst different groups of people on Samford's campus."  
-Colby Buchanan, Sophomore, Business



Admissions: "I've really enjoyed the opportunity of being involved in the admissions office, from giving tours to getting to serve as an orientation leader. I've loved my time at Samford and it has been such a rewarding experience to share my passion with prospective and incoming students."  
-Riley Westmoreland, Sophomore, Political Science and JMC

Student Activities Council: "My favorite organization is SAC because I love planning activities and the relationships I have made through the process."  
-Anna Reid, Sophomore, Pre-Pharmacy

Student Executive Board: "I have been fortunate enough to serve as the VP for Development on this year's Student Executive Board. It has given me the great opportunity to work with other leaders on Samford's campus to act as a voice for the student body. It has been a true learning experience and one of my favorite aspects of my Samford experience."  
-Tessa Pitts, Junior, Political Science







# Influencing futures and Leaving a Legacy

*On weekends when Samford's campus was booming with visitors and alumni, a sea of red polos and navy suits were visible for all to see.*  
by *Tori Bragg*

The red polos represented members of the Student Recruitment Team. Nicknamed SRT, this organization interacted with potential Samford students through monthly preview days and daily small group tours.

"The Student Recruitment Team is in place to be the face of Samford to prospective students and their families," Amber Patrick, senior nursing major and SRT president, said.

"The biggest thing we do during the fall semester is preview day," she said. "Preview days are on three different Saturdays throughout the semester and are chances for prospective students to tour Samford, talk to current students and meet their admission counselors."

Tours of the university cycled through common hot-spots like the University Center several times a day. Families in the tours often heard random shouts from students along the way, which made the tour group feel at home in the Samford community.

SRT members helped guide the inquisitive guests and provided candid answers about their personal Samford experiences. "Preview days and campus tours are not always about loading the students up with information about Samford. Most of that they can find on the Internet," sophomore political science major Thomas Oliver said. "What they can't find on the Internet are the experiences of real students."

In similar fashion, the navy suits represented members of the Samford Ambassadors. As the Student Recruitment Team engaged prospective students, the Samford Ambassadors engaged donors and dignitaries.

"As Ambassadors, we are representatives of the student body to alumni and donors to Samford," sophomore accounting major Payton Agan said.

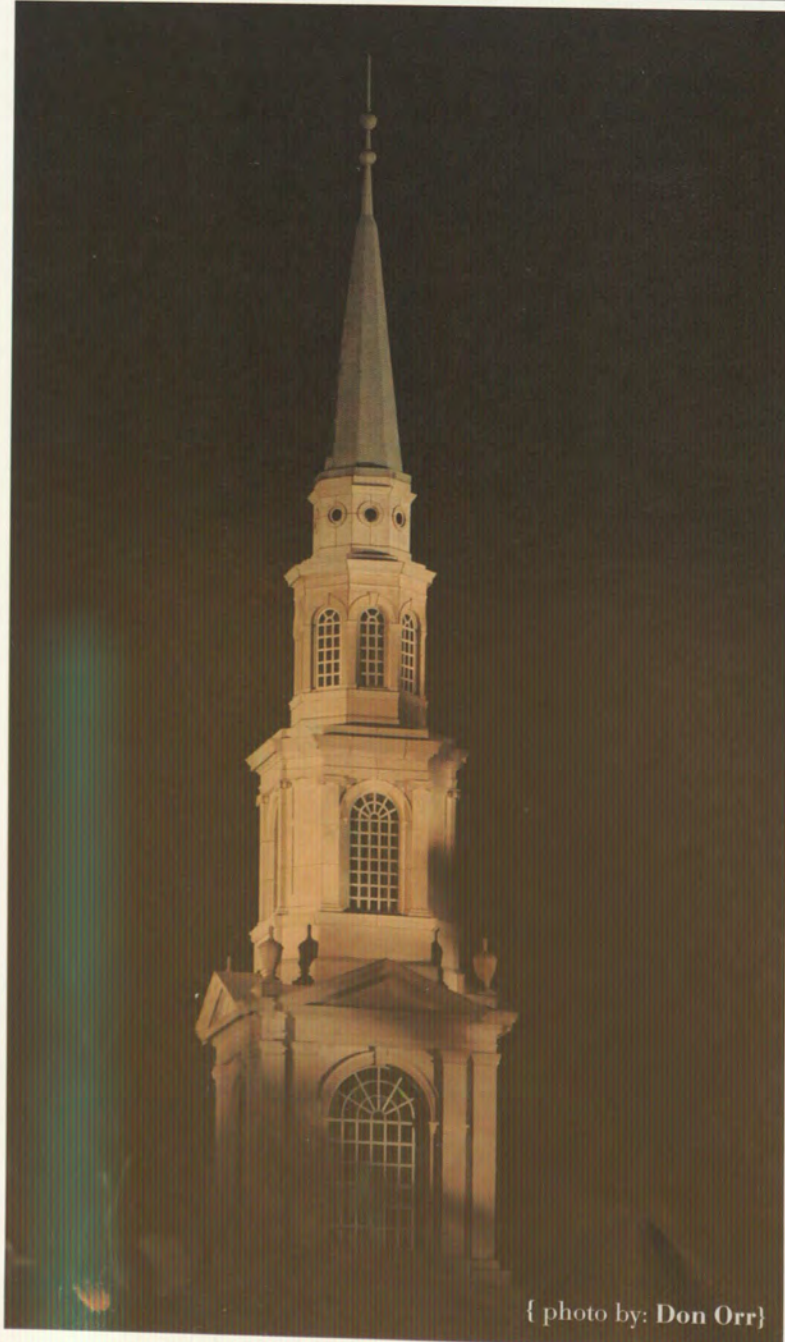
Junior sociology major Madison Hall served Samford as a member of both SRT and Samford Ambassadors. "Ambassadors have biweekly meetings and are asked to work events that range from early morning board meetings to nighttime dinners at the Westmoreland's to home football games in the press box," Hall said.

In the 2009-2010 school year, the Ambassadors actively sought ways to become familiar faces to students on campus as well as utilize alumni support. The group also made trips to Washington, D.C., and Houston in an effort to reach alumni and donors.

"Both Ambassadors and SRT provide a way for students to be involved with the process of improving Samford for future members of its community," Hall said. "As an Ambassador that may be through sharing my Samford story with alumni or member of the community. As an SRT member, that may be walking alongside a prospective student at a preview day and calming their qualms about coming to college. These two organizations have an important hand in what Samford will look like in the next five, ten or fifteen years."

These two prestigious student organizations provided Samford with a wonderful representation for prospective students and alumni donors. The students involved helped shape Samford's future as a result of hard work mixed with their passion to impact Samford's legacy.







# Serving to be a Leader

*For actively involved students,  
the Student Government Association  
office shined like a bright beacon. SGA  
moved like an invisible hand making  
waves within the student body.*

*By: Tori Bragg*

Senior communications studies major Bee Frederick served as the president of the Student Government Association. The SGA's main branch of leadership, the student executive board, served as the head committee over student involvement and its subordinate organizations.

In a diverse student body, many students complained their voices were never heard. However, this year's SGA took a stand to emphasize their availability to every single student. Frederick implemented a servant-leadership policy that has echoed in every aspect of student government.

"In my opinion, an effective leader is someone who serves well," Frederick said. "We are stressing servant leadership this year, and I think it has gone a long way. A leader must be able to remove himself from the position and simply serve others."

The vice presidents followed suit. "This year we have really made a stride toward serving the students in everything we do," junior communications studies major Terra Garmon said. "We have tried to find what the students actually want and what they would benefit from most."

Garmon served as the vice president for programming and presided over planning campus-wide activities in conjunction with Jay Harper, vice president for events.

Year after year, SGA has attempted to bridge the separation of student government and student concern. This year was no exception.

"One of the main goals for SGA has been to facilitate better communication between the students and the student executive board," junior political science major and Vice President of Development Tessa Pitts said. "We want the students to know we are here to be servant leaders for them. They are welcome to come by our office, call or e-mail with any ideas, problems or questions they might have."

This attitude led to many positive improvements in the daily happenings in the lives of students. "There is a new focus on what students really want, instead of just accepting the things we have always done and moving on," sophomore journalism and mass communication and political science major Riley Westmoreland said.

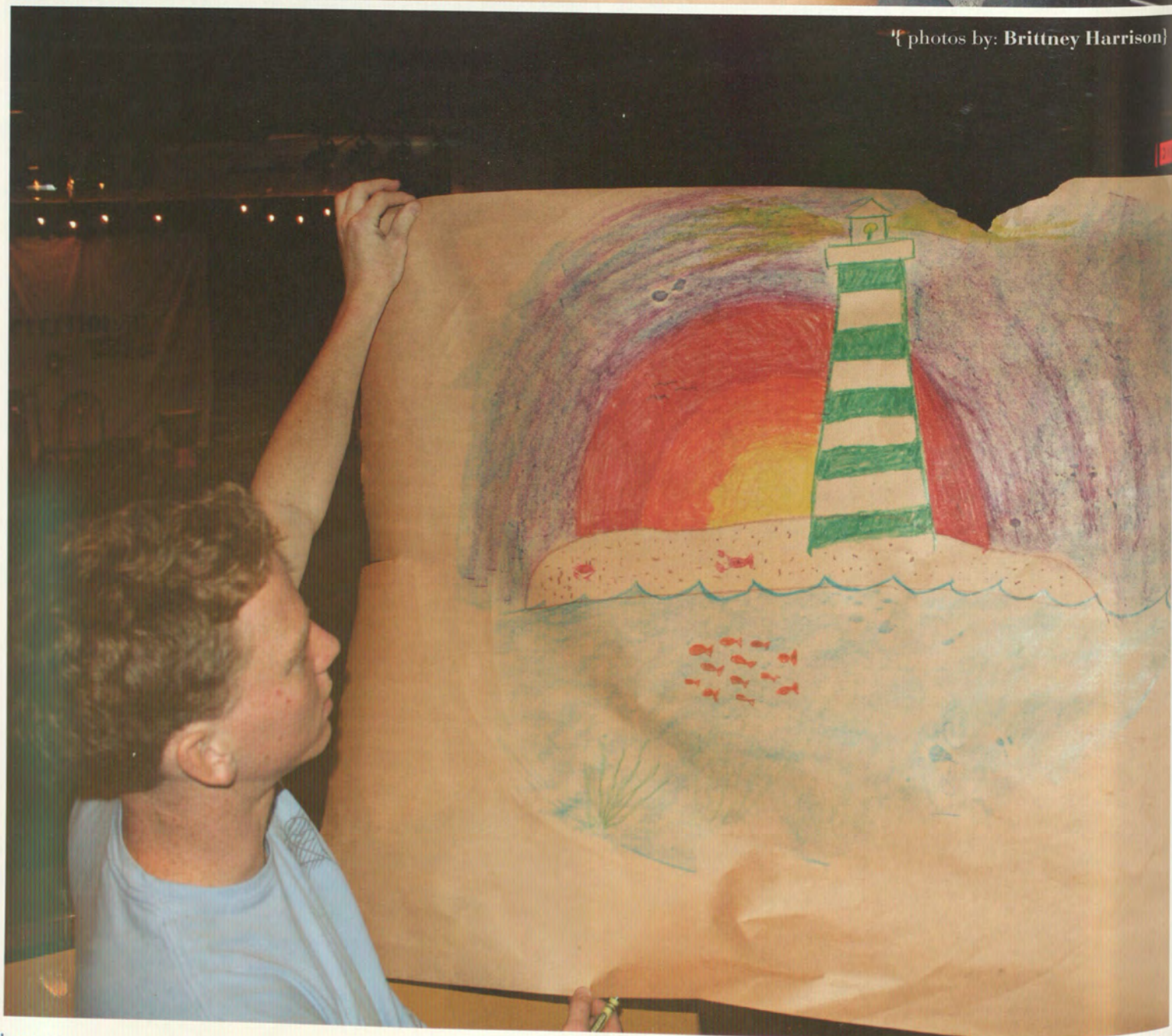
Westmoreland was a special events chairwoman for the Student Activities Council and listened to the voice of her peers in order to begin the "fountain Fridays" tradition. "SAC started 'fountain Fridays,' where we set up in Ben Brown and give away something and play music, just because it's a Friday and it's fun to do," she said. "It's something students can easily participate in, and something that helps them put a face to SGA."

Through the efforts of these hardworking students, the student government was revived within the student body. When thinking about SGA, students no longer thought of a ruling elite. Instead, they saw the faces of their peers who wanted to serve them in order to make Samford a more enjoyable place for all.





{ photos by: Brittney Harrison }





# Behind the scenes

*Behind the scenes of many Samford activities was a bustling and important group, the Student Activities Council.*

*by Kellie Dickinson*

According to the Samford University SGA constitution, SAC provided and coordinated "student entertainment, activities and programming." Led by junior marketing major Jay Harper and junior communication studies major Terra Garmon, SAC put on campus events year-round. Activities organized by SAC included Family Weekend, Miss Samford, Spring Fling, Harry's Coffeehouse and many more.

Another event SAC organized was Samford Speakers Series. SAC helped ensure the speakers were as entertaining as possible for the students. Sophomore journalism and mass communication and political science major Tori Bragg was Speaker Series co-chair with junior journalism and mass communication major Molly Jones. "We seek to bring speakers that are actually entertaining and engaging. Our goal is for students to want to come to our event," Bragg said. "We converse once a week to plan out who we want to bring and how we are going to get them here," Bragg said.

At the beginning of each year, the Welcome Back chairs planned several events to introduce students to a fresh, new year at Samford. Dinner on the Dirt, a highly anticipated event every year, was held the Sunday night before classes to kickoff Welcome Back week. All week, additional activities introduced students to new friends and provided a great way for friends to reunite after the long summer vacation.

During the holiday season, the Samford campus was decorated for Christmas. Samford ushered in the Advent season with the Hanging of the Green and Lighting of the Way. Special Event co-chairs, sophomore pre-pharmacy major Anna Reid and sophomore journalism and mass communication major and political science major Riley Westmoreland, were responsible for not only Lighting of the Way, but also the SGA joint session dinner and the SGA inauguration banquet.

Reid and Westmoreland worked very hard planning their events. "Our job contains several smaller events, but they're all important, whether it's a SGA tradition or one for the whole university," Westmoreland said. "All of us have tried to think of what the student body really wants from their events this year, and I think that's been effective in producing better events with higher attendance."

Perhaps Samford's most popular tradition, Step Sing, was yet another event SAC planned. Step Sing has occurred for more than 60 years. Different organizations around campus planned and choreographed their own shows to perform in Step Sing.

SAC played a vital role in the Samford community. Whether it be a simple concert in Harry's or the elaborate Step Sing, SAC was there behind the excellence.







# Team for All Athletes

*The Samford Athlete Advisory Committee was a group of student athletes who excelled in their sport and represented that sport in a committee that worked toward bettering the athletic department and Samford as a whole.*

*by Annie Lockwood*

The SAAC was very involved in philanthropic events such as Angel Tree, Community Reading Program and the Penny Drop. During the year, the group also sponsored events like the basketball's Pink Zone initiative and donated food and gifts to various charities during the holiday season.

This year, the entire Samford community was shocked and saddened by the death of senior basketball team member Jim Griffin. In light of this event, most of what the SAAC worked toward this year was keeping Griffin's memory alive. To accomplish this, they sold the popular sixth man T-shirts and hosted a corn-hole tournament for the Jim Griffin Fund. These events helped unite athletes and non athletes together to support athletics.

At the end of each year SAAC hosts the SAMPSYS, Samford's version of the ESPYS. This awards ceremony honored the best in Samford student athletics. Awards ranged from Mr. and Miss Bulldog, an award for high grades, stats and accolades, to best blooper. The best blooper award, in its second year, was started thanks to the SAAC.

Senior exercise science majors Megan Wilderotter and Patrick Hatcher were co-chairs of SAAC. Both were involved for most of their times at Samford.

Wilderotter said she enjoyed her time on SAAC and that it helped accomplish a lot for the student athletes. "I'd say starting the SAMSPYS was our biggest accomplishment because we got to start something that hopefully will be continued for years to come," she said. "Raising the most money out of the SoCon schools for Think Pink Breast Cancer Awareness two years in a row was also a big accomplishment."

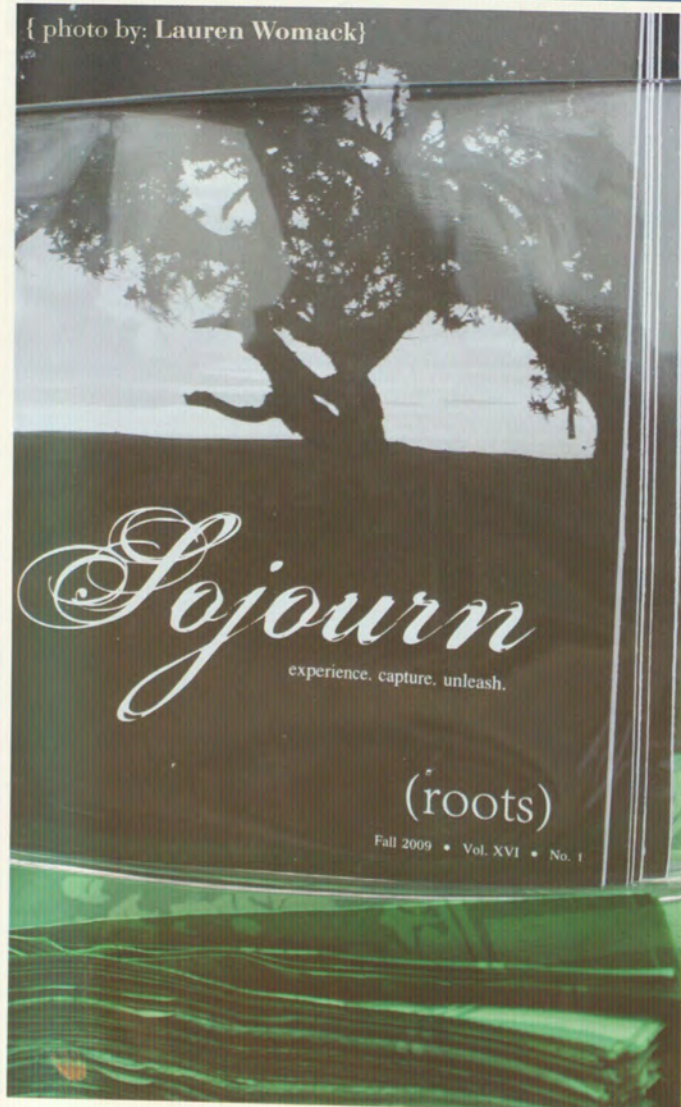
The accomplishment SAAC wanted to see the most, though, was more athletic support and athletes having a bigger network of people in the same place they, both of which are well underway because of the work of SAAC.



{ photo by: Lauren Womack }



{ photo by: Lauren Womack }



{ photo by: Lauren Sharpe }



# TO Inform and Inspire

*What was black, white,  
red and read all over?*

*by Lauren Womack*

The Samford Crimson, the oldest and best-known student publication on campus. Although several different forms of student media floated around campus, the Crimson was definitely what comes to mind first.

In its current form, The Samford Crimson is a student-run, weekly newspaper, which hit the stands every Wednesday morning. Because the newspaper was student-run, Crimson Editor and junior journalism and mass communication major Melissa McBride said the newspaper pinpointed the issues that students really wanted to read about in their newspaper. "It is the best place for students to get the news most relevant to them," she said. "We cover the news taking place on campus and in the Birmingham area." The newspaper, which typically included eight pages, was made up of four different sections, including news, opinion, expressions and sports.

Another well-known print publication on campus was Sojourn, a biannual literary arts magazine known for its black-and-white photographs and chic design. At the beginning of each semester, the Sojourn staff accepted photography, poetry, artwork and essays from students and faculty, and then selected a limited number of pieces to publish. Sojourn Art Director and senior journalism and mass communication major Shannon Dille said the magazine offered a way for all students to express themselves creatively and to get their work published. "The work we included in the magazine this year came from all kinds of different students," she said. "We published beautiful photography from English majors, literature from political science majors and a few poems from faculty members. Sojourn gives everyone a chance to get their work out there." The completed magazine came out at the end of each semester in a small, 48-page journal, filled with the art and literature of Samford's most creative individuals.

Although many iPod-loving college students overlooked it, the 91.1 FM WVSU on-campus radio station had many loyal listeners in the Birmingham community and the world. While its smooth jazz music may not have appealed to all students, the weekly student-run Spotlight Samford radio news show and the Samford sports updates did. Freshman journalism and mass communication major Jackie Long was a reporter for the radio station and said her work at the station was a great learning experience. "You get the opportunity to interview professors and fellow students and to put together stories for Spotlight Samford about anything and everything on campus," she said. "I think it's wonderful that Samford has an on-campus radio station. It's a cool thing for students to be involved in, and it's a way to get your voice heard." The 30-minute Spotlight Samford radio show broadcasted Wednesdays at 6 p.m. throughout the school year.

Last but not least, *Entre Nous* chronicled the events and people of Samford University in a given school year. The hardcover book was free for all students and came out at the end of each school year.

*Entre Nous* Editor and junior journalism and mass communication major Lauren Sharpe said the yearbook recorded all of the memories throughout the course of a school year. "*Entre Nous* is a publication that documents not just the history of Samford, but the history of students' lives at Samford," she said. "I love going through my parents' old yearbooks and seeing what they did when they were my age. Thirty years from now, we can look back at *Entre Nous* and remember our college years."

From magazine to radio, Samford offered quality publications and programs for students to create and contribute to or simply read or listen to. Samford student media served to inform students about the news around campus, inspire them to expand their minds and express their creativity and encourage them to speak up and let their voices be heard.







# Community Service Council Gives Back

*In the midst of classes, studying, club meetings, working and the other demands of college life, it was sometimes difficult for students to leave Samford's gates and get involved in the Birmingham community.*

*by Jennifer Taylor*

However, an organization came back to campus in 2009 to help students with this dilemma.

The Community Service Council was re-established through the Office of Student Involvement and offered several events this year to get students plugged in and serving with different non-profit organizations in the Birmingham area.

"A few years ago, Samford had a community service council, but it gradually died out due to lack of student interest," sophomore journalism and mass communication major Kelsey Boone said. "It was brought back to campus this year as a way to plug students in with service opportunities beyond Samford's gates." Boone served as the vice president of the Community Service Council.

The council began with members from the 2008-2009 Freshman Forum serving as officers. "Once we had a foundation with old Freshman Forum members, we were able to get going and give the student body a chance to apply for positions," Boone said.

Applications were sent out via e-mail to students during the 2009 summer break and interviews were held at the beginning of the fall semester.

Sophomore international relations major Mary Davis received the e-mail about the Community Service Council and knew it was something she wanted to join. "Being so busy at Samford, it is hard for students to find ways to serve in Birmingham," Davis said. "I was interested in community service and when I went to my interview and saw how passionate the leaders of the Community Service Council were about helping to meet the needs of the Birmingham area, I knew I had to get involved." Davis was the public relations chairman for the Community Service Council.

The Community Service Council hosted several events to make it easy for students to serve in Birmingham.

"We held a kick-off event in Ben Brown Plaza with free food and convo credit for students to come see what the

council is and how they can help with different events,"

Boone said. "Several non-profit organizations came to campus that day with information about ways to help with their programs. Some even offered internships for students interested in public relations, advertising, marketing and other majors."

The fall presented opportunities for students to become involved in community service in a number of different ways. The week of Nov. 16-20 was Hunger and Homeless Week. "During this week, we had information available throughout campus about homelessness, specifically in Birmingham," Boone said.

Two major events, a cardboard campout and a rice and beans bowl, took place during the week. "The cardboard campout was held on the quad on Nov. 18," Boone said. "Students brought their own cardboard and a limited number of blankets and spent the night on the quad. The activity was meant to help students gain a better understanding of what homeless life is like."

The rice and beans bowl took place during the Samford versus Elon football game on Nov. 21. "The Samford SGA and the Elon SGA partnered together for this event. Students from both schools brought rice, beans, or rice and beans as a donation to Birmingham homeless shelters," Boone said.

The Community Service Council continued to offer service opportunities in the spring. One huge event was Samford Gives Back, held on Saturday, March 27. Students had the chance to travel with a group of their peers to different non-profit organizations in Birmingham. Organizations included Firehouse Shelter, a Habitat for Humanity construction site, Northstar Youth Ministries, Chateau Vestavia Nursing Home and the Interfaith House. Students received a free t-shirt, convo credit and a barbeque dinner for participating in Samford Gives Back.

The Community Service Council wanted more than anything to be the first step for students to find a place in Birmingham to spend their time serving. "We wanted to be a place where students could come and learn more about different organizations where they can serve. We wanted to help students find an outlet in Birmingham," Davis said.





{ photo by: Megan Scott }



{ photo by: Megan Scott }





# Sisterhood of Service

*During the hectic week of recruitment,  
girls sought to find out which sorority fit  
them best, modeled their ideals and extended  
to them a bid to join their chapter.*

*by Haley Shore*

However, one sorority, Gamma Sigma Sigma, provided a different aspect of Greek Life. The service sorority focused on building the individual girl through service values. Gamma Sigma Sigma participated in numerous community service events throughout the year including United Way and March of Dimes.

Most of the Panhellenic sororities focused on philanthropy only one night during recruitment and with philanthropy events throughout the year. Gamma Sigma Sigma is a completely service-based sorority.

"Giving back to the community through various projects is very rewarding, great feeling. I think serving others in the community sets us apart from other organizations," sophomore nursing major Morgan Rhinehart said.

Gamma Sigma Sigma did not lack the "sisterhood feel" of a typical sorority, but instead built sisterhood through active serving. "It gives you all the benefits of a sorority, like fun and sisterhood, but the focus of the group is to serve others," junior education major Sarah Branum said. Gamma Sigma Sigma participated in many community service activities during the year. Their biggest fall activity was

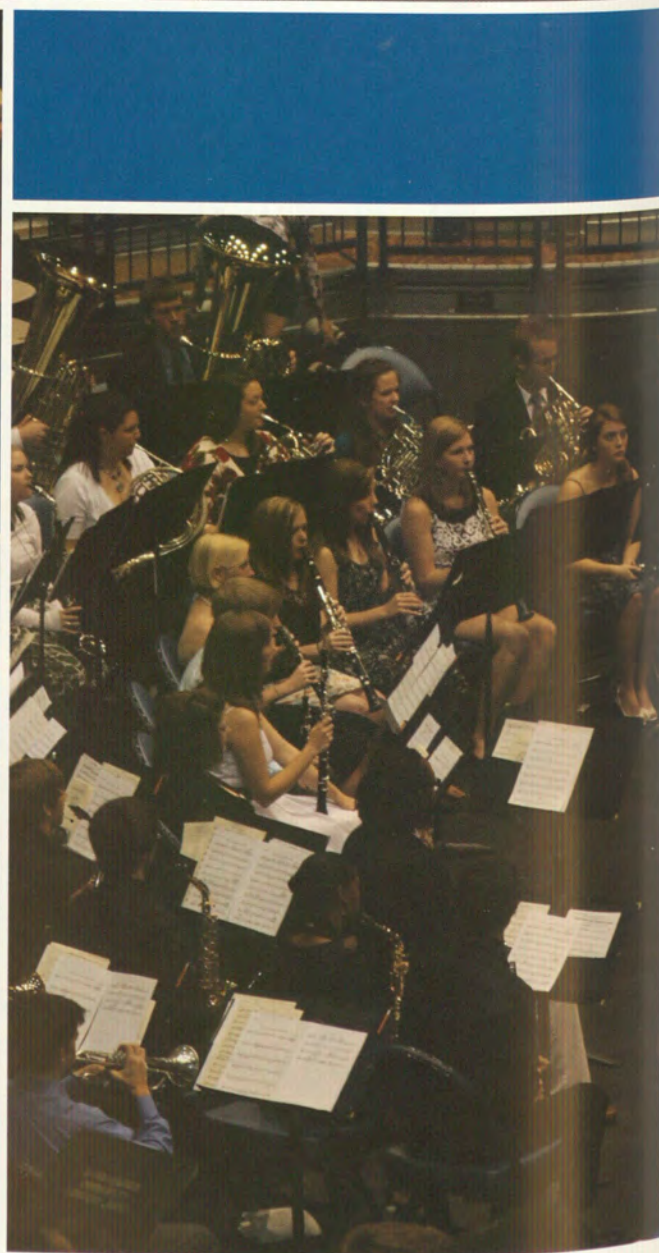
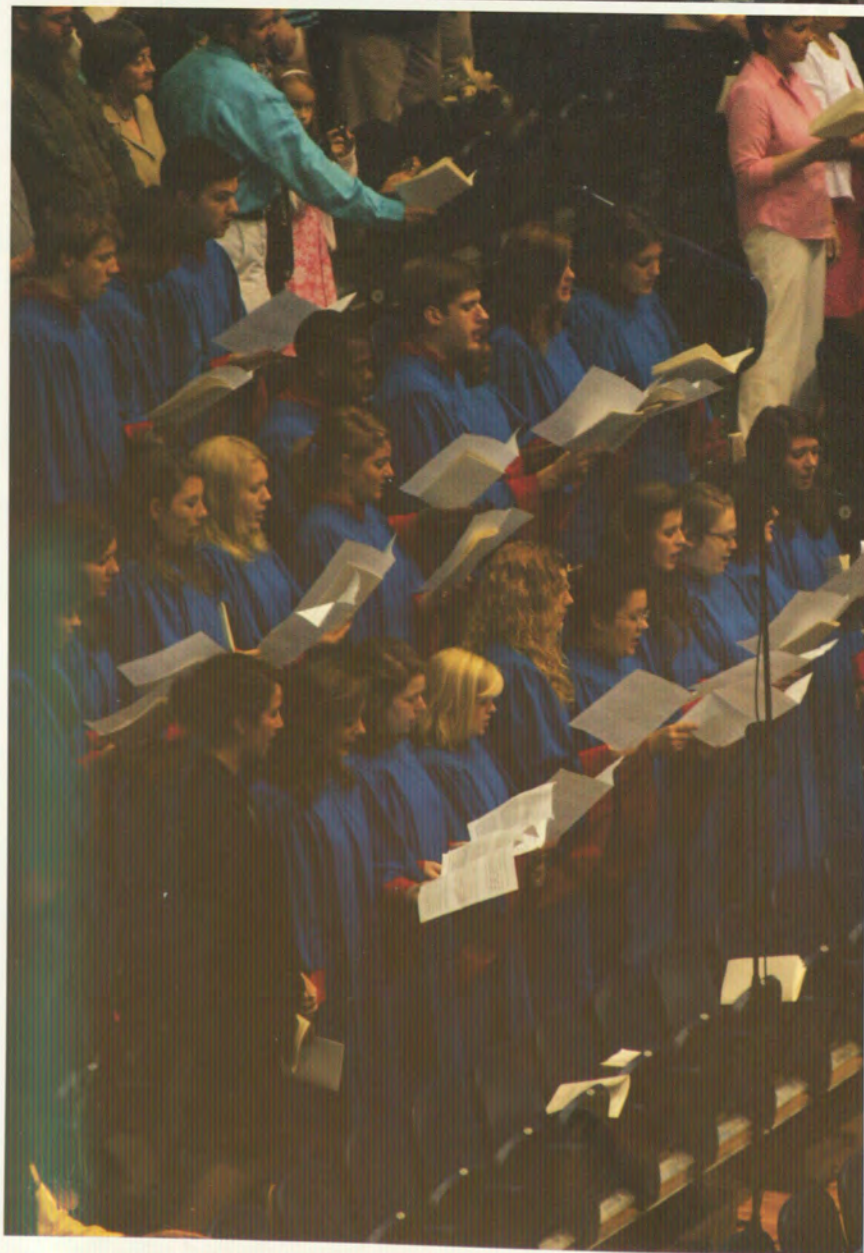
a fundraiser for The United Way Campaign. They altered the usual Halloween Trick or Treat parties and instead went trick or treating for canned goods. The girls split into groups and held a competition to see who could collect the most cans. The canned goods went to local shelters to restock food pantries.

Even though Gamma Sigma Sigma is the smallest sorority on campus, members and officers of the group have big plans for their future. "It would be great to see Gamma Sigma Sigma grow even more next year," sophomore management major Erin Bentley said. "We nearly doubled our numbers this past fall."

Branum agreed. "It would be great to see the group get involved with more groups around campus. We could also make some of our community service projects available to all students," she said.

The small sisterhood of Gamma Sigma Sigma continued to lead the way on campus with community outreach and service projects. By participating in several service events each semester, each sister of the sorority was able to make a huge impact in her college, community and society.







# Passion Meets Music

*Outside of class, Samford's most talented musicians participate in ensembles such as University Choir, Handbells, A Capella Choir and Percussion Ensemble.*

*by Annie Lockwood*

University Choir is a group of music majors and minors and music lovers. Junior music major Cameron Johnson has been involved for three years. She said her favorite parts of her conductor, Sharon Lawhon, and the annual Christmas traditions. "My best memory has been the Hanging of the Green service and Lighting of the Way," Johnson said. "I love being able to lead worship for the school."

The choir practiced three times a week and typically sing hymns, classical music, spirituals, and Christmas songs. "Our practices consist of warm ups, reading the music and practicing it until our performance," sophomore history and social science major Kelsey Tichenor said. "Dr. Lawhon uses many creative methods to help us perfect our performance. Sometimes we all get in a circle and sing toward each other or sometimes we use hand motions."

One of the most unique music groups was the A Capella Choir. A Capella Choir members practiced three times a week and usually had three performances a semester. A Capella Choir was honored at several events across the globe. During summer 2009, the ensemble performed at mass in the Vatican, in Notre Dame in Paris and with the Claire College Choir of Cambridge University in England.

Senior music major Ryan Ford said the group's music can be a surprise. "We sing music you wouldn't expect to be enjoyable," Ford said. "It can range from exciting chorale music to hymns, and it has never been boring and always is powerful."

Many passionate student musicians were also involved in the percussion ensemble. Senior music education major John Benton said he wanted to be a part because it strengthened his love of music.

"We have played a number of pieces that I never knew I would have the ability to play," Benton said. "Because of our modest size we were able to play chamber pieces that are smaller in number and require each player to know their individual part better, and in our case, have much more complicated and fun parts."

The Percussion ensemble had one major concert each semester but did a lot of concerts at other schools, benefit events and guest performances. Music professor Grant Dalton led the ensemble.

One other musical ensemble students enjoyed was Bells of Buchanan. The hand bell choir performed several times a year during convocation and in Hodges Chapel and around Birmingham.

Freshman music major Elizabeth Berg, who was involved in more than four music ensembles, said her favorite place to perform was Hodges Chapel. "It is so incredibly beautiful that I have a hard time focusing on the performance," she said.

"My favorite song to perform is called 'Hope, Faith, Life, Love' by Eric Whitacre. It is incredibly moving and I love being able to create that kind of an intimate connection with the audience. Gasps of awe are much more rewarding than thunderous applause," Berg said.



# Not Missing a Thing

*I don't wanna close my eyes.  
I don't wanna fall asleep...I don't  
wanna miss a thing.*

*by Ashlie Williams*

These well-known lyrics by Aerosmith floated through the minds of countless Samford fans during this year's half-time show. With an attention-catching Aerosmith theme, fans were intent on watching the talented, spirited marching band and hoping not to miss a thing.

This year's theme was considered a success by band members, students and fans. "I really liked the show," sophomore international studies major Amy Reynolds said. "The theme is classic enough for everyone to know the songs and interesting enough to keep the audience's attention." When deciding on a performance theme, band director, Jim Smisek, said he considered what would be entertaining for the majority and decided the Aerosmith theme was perfect.

"I love the Aerosmith theme that the band is doing this year," sophomore nursing major Julianne Boone said. "Playing upbeat music that we are all familiar with makes for enjoyable practices and performances."

The Samford band was unique from many other college bands in that it did not travel with the football team to away games. Instead, it focused on making home games interesting and entertaining. Along with all home football games, the band also played for Homecoming events and participated in the Pinson Valley High School band contest.

The band preferred to call itself a family rather than simply a group of students and held high standards concerning academic and spiritual matters. "The band does devotionals before practice which helps the unity of the 'band family' and is wonderful encouragement," Boone said.

Due to a deep understanding for the importance of academics, Smisek called for practices only twice a week. Still, the band is dedicated to giving Samford games a memorable, energetic show. To accomplish this, the band practiced every day for two weeks prior to the start of classes.

"Our marching band is a great family of students who enjoy performing and work very hard to reach perfection, even though that is impossible. We also have fun," Smisek said. This atmosphere of love and faith shined through in every performance and made each performance fun and entertaining for all members of the Samford community.

{ photo by: Evan Chandlee }







{ photo by: Don Orr }



{ photo by: Evan Chandlee }



{ photo by: Don Orr }



{ photo by: Evan Chandlee }



{ photo by: Don Orr }

Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Greek Life Competition Academics



# Equipping for Life

*While most students were still snug in their beds, Air Force ROTC students were up and running-literally.*

*By Lizz Milne*

For ROTC students, physical training started at 6:00 a.m. Despite the early hours, ROTC students described the program as fun and rewarding.

So what is ROTC, exactly? ROTC stands for Reserve Officers' Training Corps. The purpose of the program is to train future officers for the United States Air Force.

"ROTC is so much more than a club," senior communication studies major Jason Gossett said. "When we graduate, we will immediately commission as second lieutenants in the U.S. Air Force and automatically outrank more than 84 percent of the entire U.S. military."

ROTC is a unique program that offers hands on experience to be used in real life situations. "Air Force ROTC has taught me so much more than I expected or could have even imagined. I have learned more through this program than I could have in any classroom," Gossett said.

Through ROTC students learned leadership, teamwork and much more. Brittany Gordon, a sophomore nursing major, said ROTC taught her creative problem solving. While she used to see only one solution to a problem, Gordon learned that cooperation often brought forth unique solutions that would not have been possible without a team effort.

The ROTC program at Samford grew during the 2009-2010 school year. More students than ever before participated. Opportunities were expanded as well. ROTC students were able to visit the Tyndall Air Force base in Panama City Beach, Fla., and the Columbus Air Force base in Columbus, Miss., to participate in altitude chamber training.

ROTC provided countless opportunities for any degree program or career field. Sophomore English major Caroline Milam hoped to go to law school and said she felt ROTC was providing adequate preparation for her goal. "I feel like the military offers the most rigorous legal training and will allow me to gain valuable, hands on experience right out of law school," she said.

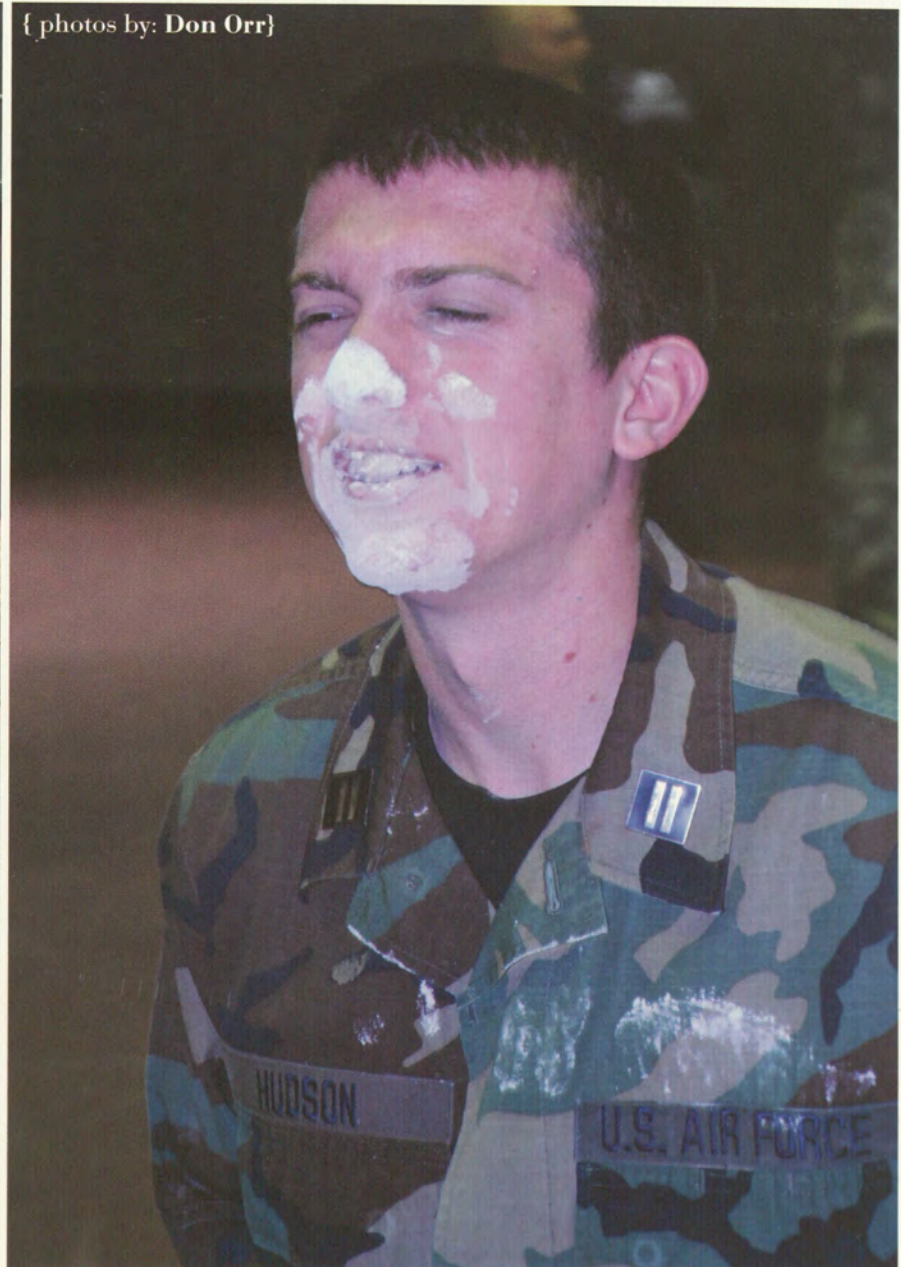
Even with the early mornings and long training hours, ROTC students gained experience and learned lessons to help them through college and beyond.







{ photos by: Don Orr }











{ photo by: Evan Chandlee }





# Greek Life

*From recruitment to formals, those  
who have pledged enjoy the bond of  
close friendships that  
Greek Life provides.*





{ photo by: Malynda Mesler }



"The Leadership skills and ability to work with people with all personalities, the friendships, and connections gained through **Greek life** has added so much joy and encouragement in my four years at Samford." -Senior history major Grace Pohlman, AOPI

"I will take away memories that I wouldn't trade for any sum of money, friendships, and lots of great pocket tee's that you can't get anywhere else." -Sophomore Entrepreneurship major John Woods, Pi Kappa Phi

"My involvement in Alpha Delta Pi made all the impact on my Samford experience. The leadership skills I learned were invaluable, but it's the relationships I gained that will forever remain with me." -Senior JMC major Ashlyn Stallings, ADPi



"I rushed because **I wanted a family**. That is exactly what I found in Zeta Tau Alpha." -Brooke Blews, junior political science major

"I decided to rush when I was a freshman. I knew I wanted to be a part of a group of women who were working together to make a difference in the world. Three years later, I can honestly say that my sorority sisters have shaped the person I am today and have encouraged me and supported me like family. **Rushing was one of the best decisions I ever made.**" -Lindsay Wilson, junior French major, Zeta Tau Alpha

"My older sister was in a sorority in college and always talked about how much she loved it, invested in it and was able to make such great friends. I thought I might as well try it out." -Candace Wilson, junior nursing major, Alpha Omicron Pi

"I knew that being part of a sorority would be so much more than making new friends. **It's about making friendships** with girls that allow you to question how you ever got through life without them." -Lindsay Heinz, junior elementary education major, Zeta Tau Alpha

"I was in a sorority in high school. I thought it would be a great opportunity to meet people and get plugged in like I had been in my high school sorority." -Courtney Naylor, sophomore nutrition major, Alpha Delta Pi

"When I decided to go Greek, I was just looking for a place to meet new friends and have fun. However, I have found so much more as a sister in Alpha Delta Pi. I have met girls who are not only tons of fun to be around, but who also encourage in me in my personal and spiritual growth. **Going Greek has been one of the best decisions of my freshman year.**" -Meredith McCoy, freshman nursing major, Alpha Delta Pi



{photo by: Cara Beasley}





[photo by: Cara Beasley]



"I went into Rush not knowing what to expect but hoping to make friendships in the process. I am so glad I decided to. I have not only found wonderful friends, but also loving sisters in Phi Mu that have become my family throughout my four years here at Samford. **I am so thankful and feel so blessed** to be surrounded by such strong, caring women." -Grace Moon, senior biology major, Phi Mu

"I rushed because I knew so many girls that were in sororities and loved it. **I wanted to be apart of that close bond.**" -Kristen Allen, sophomore nursing major, Phi Mu

"I decided to rush because **I wanted to be part of a sisterhood.** I wanted to find a group of girls I could always go to and that I could rely on to be there for me in any circumstance. I wanted the amazing friendships I had in high school but on a whole new level. I knew I could find that in the sisterhood of a sorority." -Grace McNair, sophomore journalism and mass communication major, Phi Mu

"I rushed because **I was interested in joining a sorority from the start.** The Greek life is something that attracted me to Samford because of how it is different from most other colleges, especially the Rush experience." -Kristin Hardy, freshman music major, Chi Omega

"I decided to rush because, at the time, it felt like every single girl in Vail was rushing. In the end, I decided to pledge Chi Omega because I felt supported and could see the women in that house as being kindred spirits for the rest of my life." -Elle Martin, senior nursing major, Chi Omega

"I rushed because **I thought it would be a good and fun way to get connected** and meet a lot of people." -Lauren Williams, freshmen elementary education major, Phi Mu

"I went Greek because **my mom was a Chi Omega.** Yet, after walking into the house I found something that I knew I wanted to be a part of. The sisterhood here just felt right." -Meredith Hicks, freshman sports medicine major, Chi Omega









# The Rush of Sisterhood

*Each year, hundreds of girls take part in sorority recruitment with the hopes that one of the five sororities will feel like home.*

*by Elizabeth Cassada*

Every participant wonders whether she will end up in Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Omicron Pi, Chi Omega, Phi Mu or Zeta Tau Alpha.

This year, formal recruitment, or "rush," began on Thursday, Sept. 10, with the first night of philanthropy parties. Friday followed with another round of philanthropy, followed by theme parties on Saturday and preference parties on Sunday. The exciting week culminated with bid day or "squeal" on Monday, Sept. 14.

During the four days of rush, an electric current of nerves and excitement surged through the clusters of girls standing outside each sorority house waiting for the parties to begin. Inside each house, the sisters exuded enthusiasm and flashed dazzling smiles as they banged on the door and chanted cheers. Little did the potential new members know how much time and effort the ladies behind those doors had put into making rush such an exciting experience.

For the sisters of each sorority, recruitment preparation began long before the actual week of rush. They practiced for weeks to make each party flow smoothly.

Chi Omega's recruitment director and senior marketing major Ashley Shelsby said diligence, teamwork and enthusiasm were key. "Because we worked so hard and everyone cooperated, rush was a breeze," she said. "The girls would get so excited and cheer so loudly in the hallway before each party."

However, rush was not always easy. Sometimes it was truly nerve-wracking. For Phi Mu sophomore Kaci Crawford, rush was even scarier on the other side. "I wanted to be a positive representation of Phi Mu to the girls that I rushed," she said. "I felt like the future of our chapter was partly in my hands."

Katie Albertsen, senior elementary education major and president of Zeta Tau Alpha, said rush was challeng-

ing but infinitely more rewarding. "It's so wonderful to be in such close realms with girls and develop deep friendships with them," she said. "Rush is stressful and tiring at times, but in the end, it creates nothing but close bonds and true friendship."

Although the hours upon hours of preparation sometimes seemed burdensome, most sorority members agreed it was all worth it in the end.

Alpha Delta Pi president and senior journalism and mass communication major, Ashlyn Stallings, viewed rush as an opportunity to strengthen the bonds of sisterhood and grow in appreciation for her sorority. "Recruitment always makes me fall in love all over again with ADPi," she said. "Hearing my sisters sing about ADPi, watching women I love lead the chapter, staying up late to decorate—I adore any time I can spend with these women. It's exhausting to prepare for the week of recruitment, but there is something special about learning to rely on one another during those weeks."

In addition to building stronger relationships with their sorority sisters, the girls also had the pleasure of building relationships with potential new members. For senior history major and Alpha Omicron Pi president, Grace Pohlman, these relationships were unequivocally important. "I always look forward to the new girls that I meet and potential relationships that could form," she said. "The idea that I help choose who will carry on our legacy and become a sister is so thrilling."





# Take Your Bid

*The windowpanes rattled to the  
same beat of my pounding heart.*

*by Lacy Craig*

*Thursday, Sept. 10, 2009*

Philanthropy Night

Dozens of sorority girls stood pressed tightly against the doors of the house looking out at us, beating on walls and chanting cheers. Suddenly, our line was ushered into the house. I felt unknown hands take me by the shoulders and guide me towards a chair, jabbering all the way. When I decided to participate in recruitment I had no clue what was in store for me, and here I sat on the first night dazed, surrounded by girls I'd never met, and learning about various philanthropies.

Five houses, and more than 20 conversations later, I learned that each incredible sorority at Samford was formed by a sweet sisterhood. After the initial shock of the night wore off, I settled in and actually enjoyed getting to know the little bit I learned about each girl I spoke with and each sorority as a whole. Now came the hardest part, voting on which three groups of girls separated themselves from the rest. After a short deliberation, all that was left to do was wait until theme night to find out who had asked me back.

*Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009*

Theme Night

Night two consisted of many more smiles, nice-to-see-you's, and getting even more comfortable with the girls of three special houses. From Tiffany & Co. to a Spanish fiesta, the decorations were elaborate and distinguished each group of girls from each other. These parties revolved around charming the rushees and making them feel at home. For me, my task was to decipher which girls were truly interested in me as a person and who could one day see me as their sister. After hearing about the sisterhood and talking with an even larger number of girls than the first night, I was left with fewer choices, but an even more difficult decision as I sat in front of the computer screen and reflected on my day.

*Sunday, Sept. 13, 2009*

Pref Night

With only two houses left after an intensely stressful weekend, the last preference parties stretched into eternity. I saw traits in both sororities that fit my personality and all the qualifications I was looking for the girls to fill. The parties had a much more serious tone to them. I already felt as though I knew the girls, so I was waiting for them to express their desire for me to someday wear their sorority's pin. At the end of the night, my heart was heavy under the weight of such a permanent decision. But after a quick prayer, I knew where I belonged.

*Monday, Sept. 14, 2009*

Bid Day

The concluding day finally arrived! I sat nervously on my bid card, waiting to hear them scream, "Open!" I looked down, and saw the name I had been praying for all day, Zeta Tau Alpha. This crazy, stressful, semi-twisted experience ended with fond memories and a jubilant heart, ready to experience four years of pure joy.







# Worth the rush

*Coming to Samford, I didn't really have any plans on pledging a fraternity.*

*By: Brian Brownlee*

After arriving as a transfer sophomore, I heard many good things about the rush experience. Since I had not rushed at my old school, I thought it would be a good chance to meet people, get involved on campus and possibly join a fraternity. From what I heard from guys who had rushed before, it was completely worth the time because of free food and possibility of making some really great friends.

The first night of rush was Thursday, Sept. 10, and was definitely not the most fun, but it was a good opportunity to see what each fraternity was all about. It involved shaking hands of every single member and talking with a lot of the brothers.

The second night was a completely different experience than the first. It involved eating, talking and just chilling at the different fraternities. The first house I stopped by was Sigma Chi. After that, I made my way to the Sigma Nu house, where they had an event called fight night, which involved a big moonwalk with big boxing gloves. That was a fun experience. The last house

I went to Friday night was Pi Kappa Phi. By the time I made it over there, I was almost too full to eat anymore, but it was still really fun.

Saturday was much more relaxed. Each fraternity served more food in the afternoon, but that was pretty much it. On Sunday, I went to the Sigma Chi house, where they served steak and lobster, definitely one of the best meals of rush. I went back to Sigma Nu and Pi Kappa Phi later and had a better chance to get to know some of the guys.

After the weekend was over, I was fortunate enough to receive invitations to brothers' night out from all three fraternities I had visited. For this event, it was pretty much up to the rushee to pick one of fraternities to go out with. This proved to be a hard choice for me because at that point, I didn't know if I wanted to go Pi Kappa Phi or Sigma Nu.

I eventually decided I wanted to go to the Sigma Nu brothers' night out and am now glad I did. Fortunately, the next day I received a bid from Sigma Nu and signed with them.

All the fraternities are great and so was the experience, but Sigma Nu just felt right for me. Rush was a great experience, and I would encourage anyone interested to go through it.



{photo by: Jordan Jarvis Hughes}

ΣΝ



# We're All in This Together

*At Samford, Greek Life remained a prominent  
and commanding force on campus.*

*by Tara White*

Involved in athletics, community service, leadership and academics, Greek students remained busy and leaned on the leadership of a few to provide for the well-being of the many.

This is where the Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity Council came in. These two organizations brought together leaders from every fraternity and sorority to work together, build off each other and hold each organization accountable as rapid growth continued to take over Greek Life.

"We had the largest amount of men go through recruitment this fall, allowing us to have a spring rush that Lambda Chi Alpha and Sigma Chi chose to participate in," said Bryan Hardy, junior business major and IFC President.

In an effort to manage the growth and perfect the accountability, Panhellenic implemented the Greek Excellence Program. "Greek Excellence recognizes chapters' achievements in scholarship programming, chapter operations, educational programming, campus involvement and community service/philanthropy," Panhellenic president and junior journalism and mass communication major Molly Jones said.

These all-encompassing areas enabled the Panhellenic sororities to perform better as organizations and grow stronger as sisterhoods. "In the end, there were over 80 pages worth of information. It was hard to gather it all, but it got everyone involved in the process, and really helped to build pride as a sorority," sophomore journalism and mass communication major Anna Cox said. Cox was the Panhellenic representative for Alpha Delta Pi.

"[With the provided] documentation and reports, a panel reviewed the material submitted by each chapter and scored it based upon point values," Jones said. After the calculations were tabulated, an awards brunch was held on Dec. 5 at Brio. Alpha Delta Pi received the Gold Star, Phi Mu the Silver Star, Chi Omega and Zeta Tau Alpha the Bronze Star and Alpha Omicron Pi received Honorable Mention. "PHC was extremely proud of every sorority and their achievements," Jones said.

In addition to promoting excellence, Panhellenic worked to enrich the lives of sorority women through events. In the fall, they brought Dove model and women's advocate Stacey Nadeau to speak on positive body image. In the spring, they hosted former Survivor contestant Chad Crittenden.

Greek Week was also in the spring. "Greek Week was a huge success this year, with all groups participating," Jones said. The week opened with Greek Olympics and a Qdoba dinner, included a crawfish boil and nursing home prom at Chateau Vestavia and ended with a scholarship brunch for Greeks with a 3.75 GPA or higher.

The 2009-2010 school year was a year of change and growth, with the addition of Greek Excellence and the restructuring of the Student Involvement Office. With these changes, Greek Life decided that unity was key.

"To help with the transition, we formed the President's Council, where I meet with the fraternity presidents biweekly to discuss any issues we may have while bringing us closer together," Hardy said.

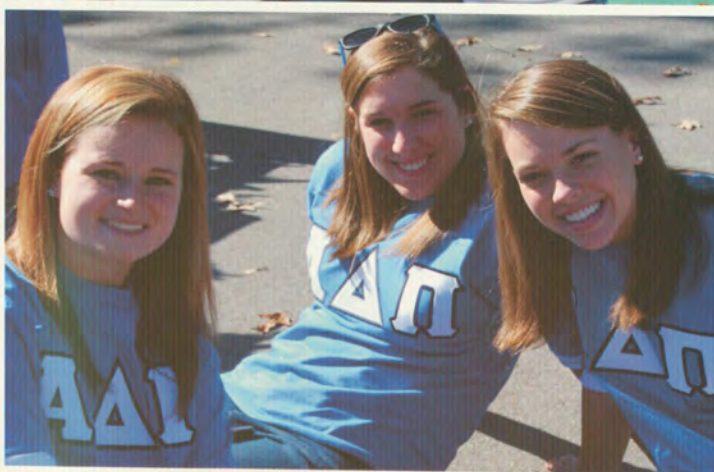
Jones said Panhellenic was also concerned with unity among the sororities. "As Panhellenic, our main goal is to promote the Greek system as a whole and we can do this best when working together and bouncing ideas off one another," she said. "As we face many changes in Office of Student Involvement with the new restructuring, we look forward to bettering our organizations and the Greek system."





Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Greek Life Competition Academics





{photos by: Meredith McDowell}



# Sisterhood Centennial

*This year marked the biggest event in Kappa Chapter's history—their celebration of 100 years on campus.*

*by Abbey Taylor*

On March 6, 2010, the women of Kappa hosted nearly 300 alumnae at the Ross Bridge Country Club to celebrate the momentous occasion. In addition to the Pi members, nearly 200 collegians and the international sorority president were present.

"We planned for almost a whole year to put the event together," junior marketing major Michelle Darden said. "There were a lot of long nights and stressed out moments, but it all paid off in the end. Seeing the women come back to celebrate what our sisterhood stands for meant so much."

The ballroom was filled with women of all ages and from all over the country reuniting with sisters for the first time in years. The room boasted plenty of nostalgia and memories of college years past. "Seeing the pledge classes from the 1940s was the best," freshman exercise science and sports medicine major Claire Cole said. "They still love Alpha Delta Pi just as they did as collegiate members, if not more."

That love for the sisterhood of ADPi has grown deeper and deeper as the years pass. Hosting social events, serving at their philanthropy and just sharing sisterhood every day

are the hallmarks of what make the sisters so close. This year, the social schedule was jam-packed for ADPi. The year started off strong with a fall band party in the "Mallard Ball" theme, unique only to this sorority. They closed out the fall with a semiformal, and opened the spring with their Centennial Ball. They also hosted a "My Tie" themed party in the spring.

Social events weren't the only thing on ADPi's calendar. Philanthropy fundraisers and service highlighted the girls' year. The Lion's Share Golf Tournament raised thousands of dollars for Ronald McDonald Charities. The spring was host to Runway for Ronald and numerous hours of cooking and playing with children at the Ronald McDonald House in downtown Birmingham.

Renovations were made to the house, specifically the chapter room, in 2010 especially for the Centennial celebration. All new flooring, furniture and decorations made the chapter room and front parlor room look beautiful and classy. "The chapter room was pretty before, but all the new decor makes me more proud to call it my home, and it was cool to see the alumnae proud of it too," freshman undeclared major Lauren Crouse said.

Hosting the Centennial after party in the chapter room on that sunny March day, Kappa's tradition of excellence shone brightly. Stories filled the walls, and memories were shared. Stories about alumni painting themselves blue and white to represent their sisters at intramural games and bringing the new girls up to the house after bid day were shared.

Everyone's eyes were a little "bluer" at the end of Centennial. The collegiate members loved seeing the women that have been a part of ADPi and grew more in their appreciation of being a Kappa member of ADPi.





{photo by: Dubose Ratchford}



{photo by: Evan Chandlee}



{photo by: Dubose Ratchford}



# Bonds That Can't be Broken

*The sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi  
celebrated a very eventful  
2009-2010 school year.*

*by Tara White*

With jam-packed fall and spring semesters, these girls welcomed in a bigger class of new members and more excitement and love for their sisterhood.

The fall semester began with busy preparations for the fall recruitment in September. The hard work and hours of practice paid off, as the Rho Delta chapter welcomed in and initiated 25 new members. "This was bigger class than usual, and we are just so excited that they are our sisters," junior Biology major Hillary Sawyer said. "They love the sorority so much and bring tons of excitement to events."

These events were in abundance in the social side, especially. The fall semester played host to a Twister-themed date party. "The entire chapter room was covered in a Twister board, and everyone had so much fun," junior classics and geography major Katie Campbell said.

The biggest event of the fall was the Red Rose Ball—which takes place every four years—in November at the Rucker Place. This dance was very special to the current sisters, who wore white gowns. Alumnae were also invited and donned black dresses. Completing the color symbolism was the president wearing red and the president-elect wearing a red sash with her white dress.

The girls rounded out the fall semester with a Christmas meet-and-greet mixer with the sisters of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Following this fun was a spring semi-formal on May 1, held in downtown Birmingham at the Highlands Conference Center.

Social events kept the sisters busy, but philanthropic events also took precedence for their national philanthropy, the Juvenile Arthritis Foundation. In the fall, the girls invited a hypnotist, commonly known as Hypno Dan, to campus to entertain a very large crowd.

"It was so funny to see people acting completely different, and we were so excited so many people came out to help support our cause," Sawyer said. Junior English major and chapter president Maddie Henderson was so excited about the awareness they raised.

"We had the hypnotist in the fall, and then an awareness day in the spring called, 'AOPi Goes Blue for Arthritis,' since blue is the national color for arthritis," Henderson said. "We wore blue clothes and asked sororities, fraternities and other organizations to wear blue as well."

The sisters also visited Children's Harbor Hospital at UAB Medical Center in the spring to spend time with the patients there. "We had the best time visiting the kids there and helped to get their minds off their illness," Sawyer said. The girls sang karaoke, painted pictures and children's faces, which made the patients' days brighter.

Through all the parties and philanthropy, the sisterhood of Alpha Omicron Pi grew stronger in the 2009-2010 school year. The highlight of many of the sisters' years was Sisterhood Retreat held on April 9-10 at Camp Hargis Retreat.

"We just hung out and had so much fun laying out, making s'mores and canoeing," Sawyer said. "It was like a big sleepover with all your closest friends."

Campbell also saw this weekend as memorable, "I met so many girls I don't think I would have normally had the chance to talk with. I definitely grew in AOPi this year, and have loved every minute of it."



# Sisters, Parties, Sports... Oh, My!

*The 2009-2010 school year was another memorable one for the sisters of the Zeta Zeta Chapter of Chi Omega.*

*by Jennifer Taylor*

Sisters, Parties, Sports, and Bats... Oh, My!

Upon returning from summer break, the sisters dove right in to a busy schedule with fall recruitment. After weeks of practicing and four busy nights of recruitment, rush concluded with Bid Day, where they welcomed 48 excited new members into their sisterhood.

As the first semester continued, the sisters of Chi Omega enjoyed a celebrity couple themed pledge bash and formal at Gabriella Manor.

"Pledge bash was my favorite party this year," junior elementary education major Abby Welbourn said. "My date and I went as Princess Jasmine and her tiger, Raja, from the movie 'Aladdin,' and it was so fun."

In the spring, they traveled to Tuscaloosa for a semi-formal, themed "Sweet Southern Moonlight." Welbourn said she enjoyed going out of town for semi-formal. "The location for semi-formal was absolutely gorgeous. It was outside at an old Southern home and there were paper lanterns in the trees. We had sweet tea and lemonade in mason jars and really cute desserts as well," Welbourn said.

Upon returning from Christmas break and Janterm, Chi Omega adopted another nocturnal animal in addition to their signature owl. The sisters worked diligently preparing for their Batman-themed Step Sing show, "A Knight's Tale." Roommates Elle Martin, senior nursing major, and Chelsea Thompson, senior family studies major, directed the show. Sophomore nursing major Kelsey Richter choreographed. The show featured the citizens of Gotham City searching for a hero to save them from villains Mister Freeze, Two-Face, The Joker, Poison Ivy and Catwoman.

Sophomore interior design major Haley Davis portrayed Poison Ivy. "Being a villain in the show made it more of a theatrical experience that I really enjoyed. It was so much fun and I will always appreciate how hard the committee worked to bring creative elements to Chi Omega's Step Sing show," Davis said.

During Greek Week 2010, Chi Omega was awarded the sorority intramural champion award for the second year in a row. Intramurals quickly became a favorite pastime for Chi Omega. Some sisters participated while others enjoyed watching and cheering.

"I don't participate in intramurals, but going to the games and cheering for my sisters has given me some of my best Chi Omega memories," junior Spanish major Mary Baggett said. "Intramurals really bring out Chi Omega's fun, competitive spirit." Although they love rush, fun social events, Step Sing and intramurals, most Chi Omegas agreed that the best part of their sorority was the friendships that formed over time.

"It's the random times hanging out in the house or going on road trips that have given me my best Chi Omega memories," sophomore biology major Christina Rutledge said.

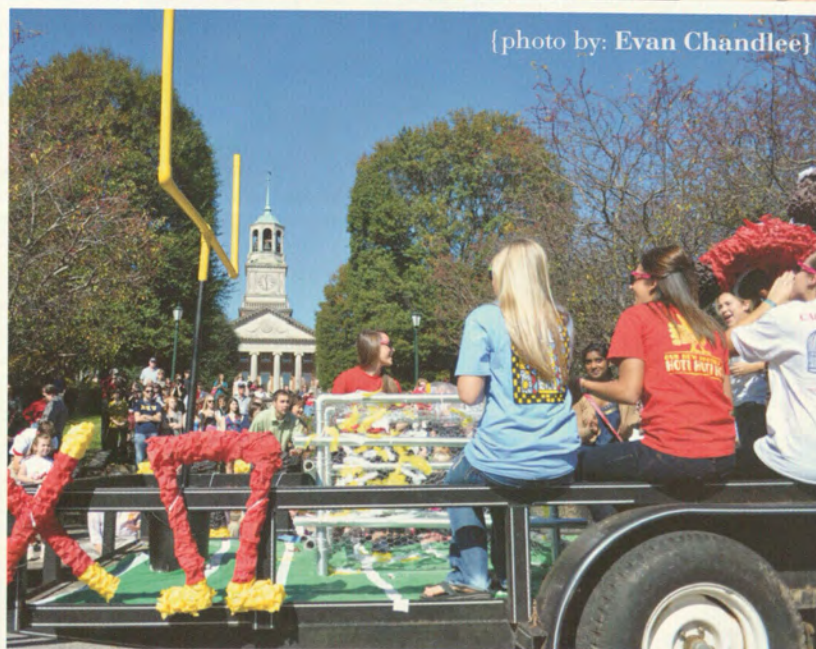
Senior elementary education major Molly McGuire agreed. McGuire served as Chi Omega's 2009 President. "I've invested a lot in Chi Omega, but I've gained more than I could ever imagine. Chi Omega is fortunate to have so many different types of girls who bring different qualities to the chapter," McGuire said. "I have been blessed by friendships through Chi Omega, and I know I will take away so many attributes through my time invested in this diverse group of women."



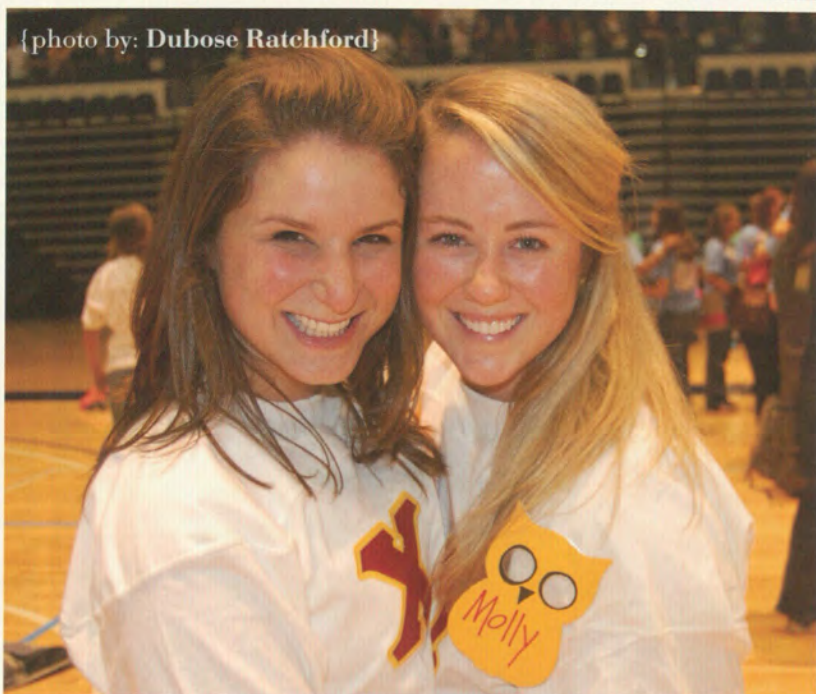
{photo by: Dubose Ratchford}



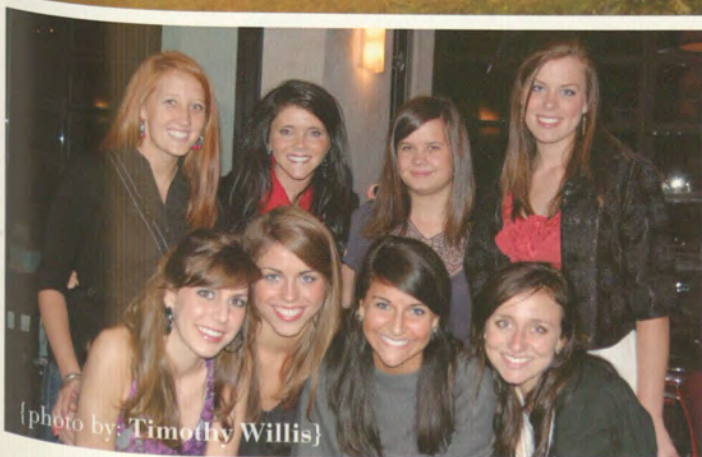
{photo by: Evan Chandlee}



{photo by: Dubose Ratchford}



{photo by: Timothy Willis}



{photo by: Timothy Willis}



{photo by: Dubose Ratchford}



{photo by: Dubose Ratchford}





# She's a Phi Mu Girl, Everybody Knows

*The 2009-2010 school year marked another busy and exciting year for the Phi Mu sisters.*

*by Elizabeth Cassada*

From late August to early May, these sisters' calendars were crammed with fun, philanthropy and other activities that strengthened sisterhood and summoned smiles.

The first important event for Phi Mu was sorority recruitment. Along with the other four sororities, Phi Mu prepared from the beginning of the semester until Recruitment week in September to impress potential new members.

For junior biology major Kathryn Matherly, this year's recruitment director, planning and participating in rush was an enjoyable and rewarding experience. "Our girls always had positive attitudes, and all that hard work and devotion truly paid off," she said. "I loved seeing everyone come together for something as important as the legacy of our chapter."

On Bid Day, Phi Mu welcomed 49 girls. These new members, referred to as "Phis," enjoyed countless fun activities from the moment they first stepped into the house until the time they were officially initiated.

Junior languages and world trade major Mary Nelle Hall was in charge of everything pertaining to the Phis. "The best part of being the new member director was developing relationships with the girls and helping them learn about and get plugged in with Phi Mu," she said. "It was fun watching them bond with each other."

The fun continued for Phi Mu as the year progressed. They danced the night away at five fabulous parties. On October 2, a Pledge Bash in celebration of the new members boasted a "Bikers and Babes" theme. The next party was a Black and White semi-

formal, held at Magnolia Springs Manor in Helena on November 21. Second semester included a "Superheroes and Villains" party at Vulcan Park on March 26, an "Old Hollywood" party at the historic Alabama Theatre on April 16 and the final spring formal on May 1.

Throughout the year, the sisters of Phi Mu participated in many philanthropic activities benefiting the Children's Miracle Network, the sorority's national philanthropy. Halloween was the first event with "Trick-or-Treat for Pocket Change." In November, the girls participated in a letter writing campaign to families and friends to raise funds and awareness. Another important event was the 15th annual Children's Miracle Run on November 14. On April 10, the girls hosted a car wash that raised more than \$4,000.

In February, Phi Mu presented their "Risky Business" Step Sing show. In the spirit of the movie "The Hangover," the girls assumed the characters of bachelorettes, card dealers, brides and showgirls to capture a second runner-up finish.

For senior biology major Sarah Clark, Phi Mu will always hold a special place in her heart. "The best thing about being a Phi Mu is that I have so many amazing friends that I might not have met otherwise," Clark said. "I will miss the late night talks in the hallways at the house with my sisters and smiling faces around campus. Phi Mu has made my college experience one that I will always cherish."





{photo by: Dubose Ratchford}



{photo by: Evan Chandlee}



{photo by: Meredith McDowell}



{photo by: Dubose Ratchford}



# Sisters True

*The sisters of the Delta Psi chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha were a close bunch.*

*by Tara White*

In a sorority built on strong foundations of truth and love, they prided themselves on one attribute in particular, their sisterhood. Freshman engineering and physics major Jayne Woodward said she found this especially true. "I love the sisters I have in Zeta," she said. "They are so fun and real, and at the end of the day, I know they have my back."

The 2009-2010 school year was an example of true Zeta sisterhood. With a very successful fall recruitment, Zeta added 52 new members to their chapter. As one of these new members, Woodward said, "It was so exciting to be a part of something new and bigger than what I was used to. It was also a great way to reconnect with old friends and deepen these preexisting friendships."

The social scene provided a fun way for the sisters to celebrate their sisterhood. The fall semester opened with a hip-hop themed pledge bash and closed with "Guys in Ties, Girls in Pearls," a formal at the Carraway Davie House. In the spring, the Zetas held a date night at a Birmingham Barons baseball game and concluded the semester and social calendar with "Zeta's Got Soul" semi-formal.

Junior history major Van Gill said she enjoyed semi-formal the most. "I think semi-formal was our most fun and Zeta-esque party," Gill said. "It was great to have a break from the end of the school year stress, and with the Motown band, everyone really broke it down on the dance floor. Zeta loves nothing more than a good dance party."

Not only did Zetas love their social events, but they loved raising awareness and support for their philanthropy, breast cancer awareness and prevention. This year sisters ran in and cheered for runners at the Race for the Cure 5k. They also partnered with the basketball and baseball teams to hold events at their games.

"While research and awareness are always at the forefront of Zeta's mind, we also try and support those brave women who are currently undergoing their chemo treatments," Gill said. In support of these women, each sister was responsible for making a "Think Pink" basket of gifts for local women with breast cancer.

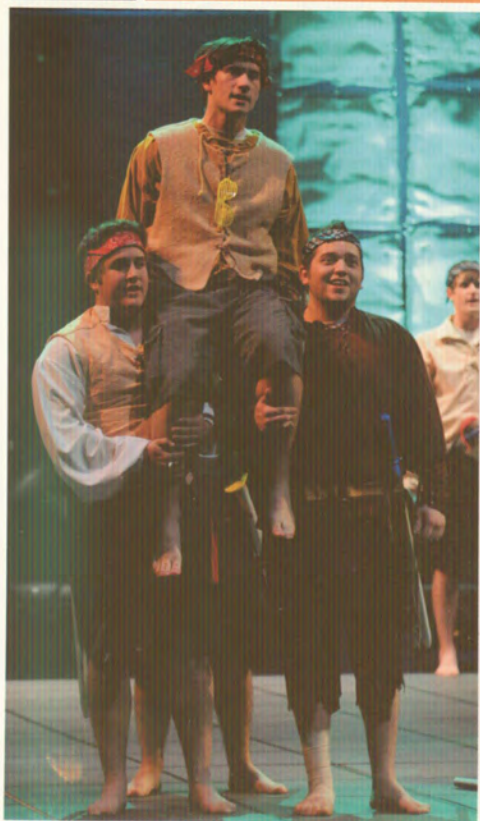
This dedication to their philanthropy and love for each other were key factors that made the Zeta sisterhood so strong. "There's a lot of laughter in our house and sorority," Gill said. "The joy and silliness that we share in Zeta helps us to bond together as well as get us through the hard times."

"Having the opportunity to be a part of girls lives who are so filled with excitement and love for life is wonderful," Gill said. "I wouldn't trade the time here with my sisters for anything."





[photos by: Don Orr]





# Stronger Ties, Stronger Future

*The brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha spent the 2009-2010 school year solidifying their growing numbers and strengthening their brotherhood.*

*by Tara White*

They initiated 10 new members in the fall and gained a new recruit in the spring. Working on bigger numbers and strengthening their alumni relations has been crucial to Lambda Chi. Junior political science major and alumni chair, Daniel Lentz said, "These graduates are the reason some of us older guys pledged. The legacy they left on us needs to carry on and influence the newer members. It's such a big deal to us."

In addition to strengthening these ties, the presence of the brothers on campus was constantly growing. Lambda Chi produced a hilarious Step Sing show, "Lambda Chi Turns to Piracy." Mixing the pop culture phenomena, "Pirates of the Caribbean" and rapper T-Pain's "I'm On a Boat" hit single, the brothers' show reached all ages and made viewers smile. "This was my last Step Sing, and last opportunity to perform with my brothers," senior marketing major Jeffrey Chapman said. "We just had a lot of fun with the show and did the best we could. Lambda Chi always makes having a good time with the show their top priority, and I love that."

The social events started off with the annual Caveman Party held during recruitment. Following this was the fall formal held at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. The spring semester saw a mixer with the Samford Bulldog Dance Team members at Pump It Up and the Informal Formal semi-formal.

Brothers accrued a whole host of honors throughout the year as well. Zach Owens, junior political science major and president of Lambda Chi, said that the fraternity was

highly involved in campus. Bryan Hardy served as president of Intrafraternity Council, Owens as the president of College Republicans, two members were initiated into Order of Omega, and many served as Student Government Association representatives and Connections leaders. This involvement made Lambda Chi a presence on campus and allowed for lots of new beginnings.

"Our fraternity is headed in the right direction," Owens said. "We have an extremely diverse brotherhood who has a great appreciation for positive growth within the fraternity, and we are continuing to increase our presence on campus."

Improvements carried on with improvements in the Lambda Chi house. With a new fire pit, newly renovated parlor room and improvements to showers, the brothers' home became a place of pride. "Our house, Treadway Manor, continues to be one of the most recognizable buildings on campus," Owens said.

Increased ties with alumni and increased numbers were crucial to Lambda Chi's success in 2009-2010. The brotherhood was stronger than ever and supported all kinds of campus involvement. "Being a brother of Lambda Chi has been such a milestone in my life. I love being a part of something bigger than myself, and growing into the man Lambda Chi has shaped me into," Lentz said.



# The Wolf Pack

*The brothers of Pi Kappa Phi  
marked a jam-packed, whirlwind  
2009-2010 school year.*

*By: Lacy Craig*

From a hugely successful recruitment, resulting in 35 new members, to numerous social events, including Barn Bash, the Southern Gents Semi-Formal and the annual Red Rose Formal in the spring. Amidst all the social excitement, this brotherhood took the campus by storm all the while, working wonders in the community and continuing to grow within their pack of brothers.

In this year's Step Sing show the men of Pi Kappa Phi had the audience flying high in a galaxy far, far away in their show, "Rock-it." They wowed the crowd with gymnastics, comedic elements, a human rocket formation and two floating brothers. All the hard work paid off in the end when Pi Kapp took second place in the competition. Junior English major and show director, Will Phillips, was pleased. "We've come a long way. We've had some rock bottom times and I'm really proud of what we're doing and where we're headed," he said.

Giving back to the community was crucial to the Pi Kappa Phi brotherhood and became more of a focus with every pledge class. This year, the guys helped support their philanthropy Push America, a non-profit founded by the Pi Kappa Phis in 1977 to raise money to better the lives of the disabled, by hosting their push-a-thon around campus. The money donated helped make the community more handicap accessible and raise awareness about special needs.

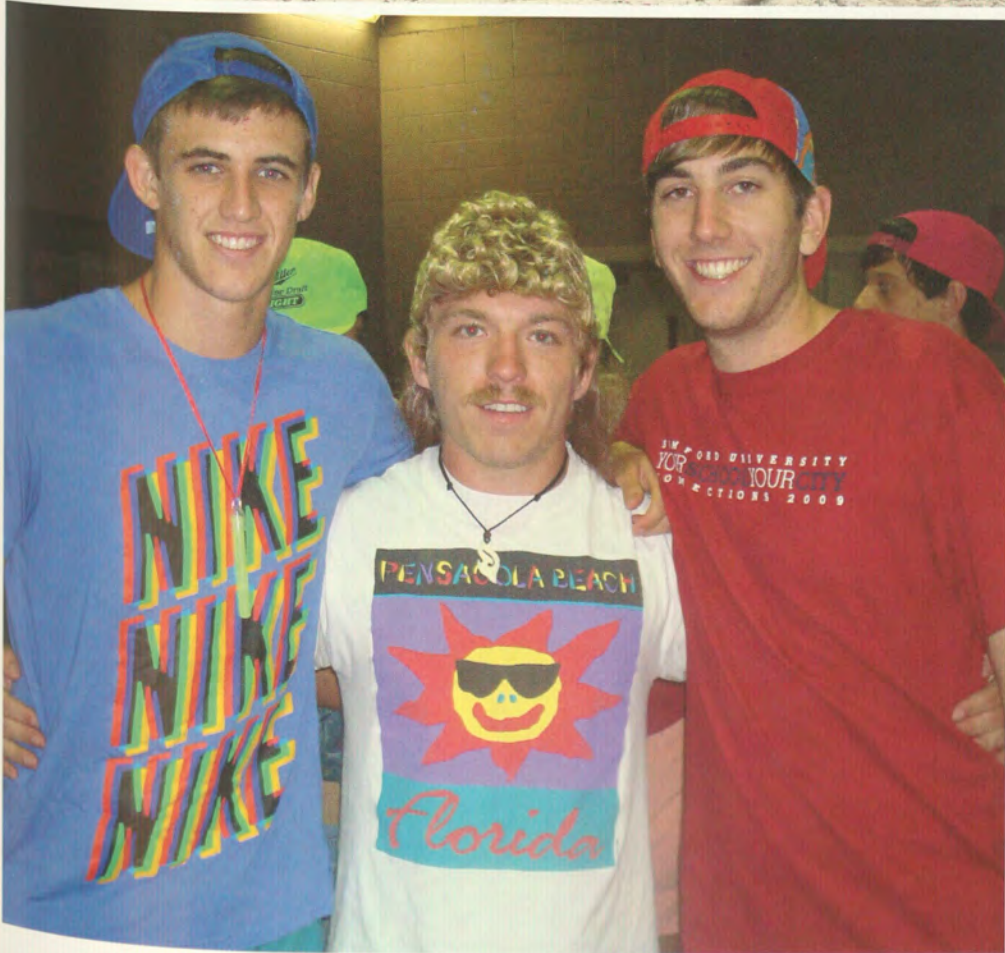
Freshman journalism and mass communication major Andrew Bennett said, "I didn't really know what to expect when I pledged, but I've never regretted a minute of it. We are such a diverse group and every different personality within the brotherhood brings a new height."

No matter the circumstance, these men were there for each other in every situation. Seanor described this relationship as family. "Pi Kapp has offered me the brothers I never had," he said. "Growing up with all sisters I love being able to just live life with these guys. Whether it's going to a wedding, or a sad occasion like a funeral, just experiencing college with them has had a great impact on me, and I'm so thankful for them, and this year all the new brothers added to this feeling even more."

Pi Kappa Phi was more than just a brotherhood. It was a family. Before the movie, "The Hangover" coined the idea, they related themselves to a wolf pack and quoted Rudyard Kipling, "For the strength of the pack is in the wolf and the strength of the wolf is in the pack."

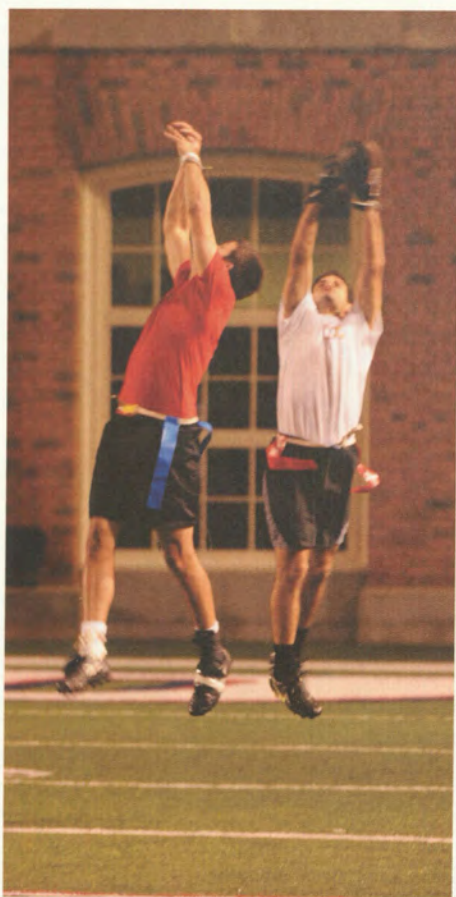
Whether it was dominating the Step Sing stage or being there for a brother, the Pi Kappa Phis were great at lifting each other up. Rocketing to the top, an inseparable wolf pack, the best friends that anyone could have—call them what you want, but there's no question that for Pi Kappa Phi, the 2009-2010 school year left them feeling strong, with an incredible sense of brotherhood.





Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Creek Life Competition Academics





{ photos by: Don Orr }





# An Unstoppable Legacy

*The brotherhood of Sigma Chi prided itself on their commitment to maintaining true friendships and lifelong learning and attaining equal justice not only amongst the brothers, but any larger circle of which they are a part.*

*By: Lacy Craig*

The 2009-2010 school year was a great time for growth amongst the members of Samford's Pi chapter. With 16 new initiates in the fall, these men continued their long-standing tradition of passing on a values system that focused on acceptance and diversity among its members. In addition to the 16 newly initiated members, Sigma Chi held a spring rush for the first time ever. The events were successful and garnered the fraternity an additional nine pledges, expanding this group of brothers even further.

This year Sigma Chi focused on becoming a tightly-knit group. "To me, Sigma Chi is a band of brothers who go out of their way to support me and keep me accountable," freshman business major Addison McDowell said. "Pi chapter's brothers are so committed to each other."

This commitment was apparent this year through social events including a welcome-back party, a foam party for fall rush and a toga party in the fall.

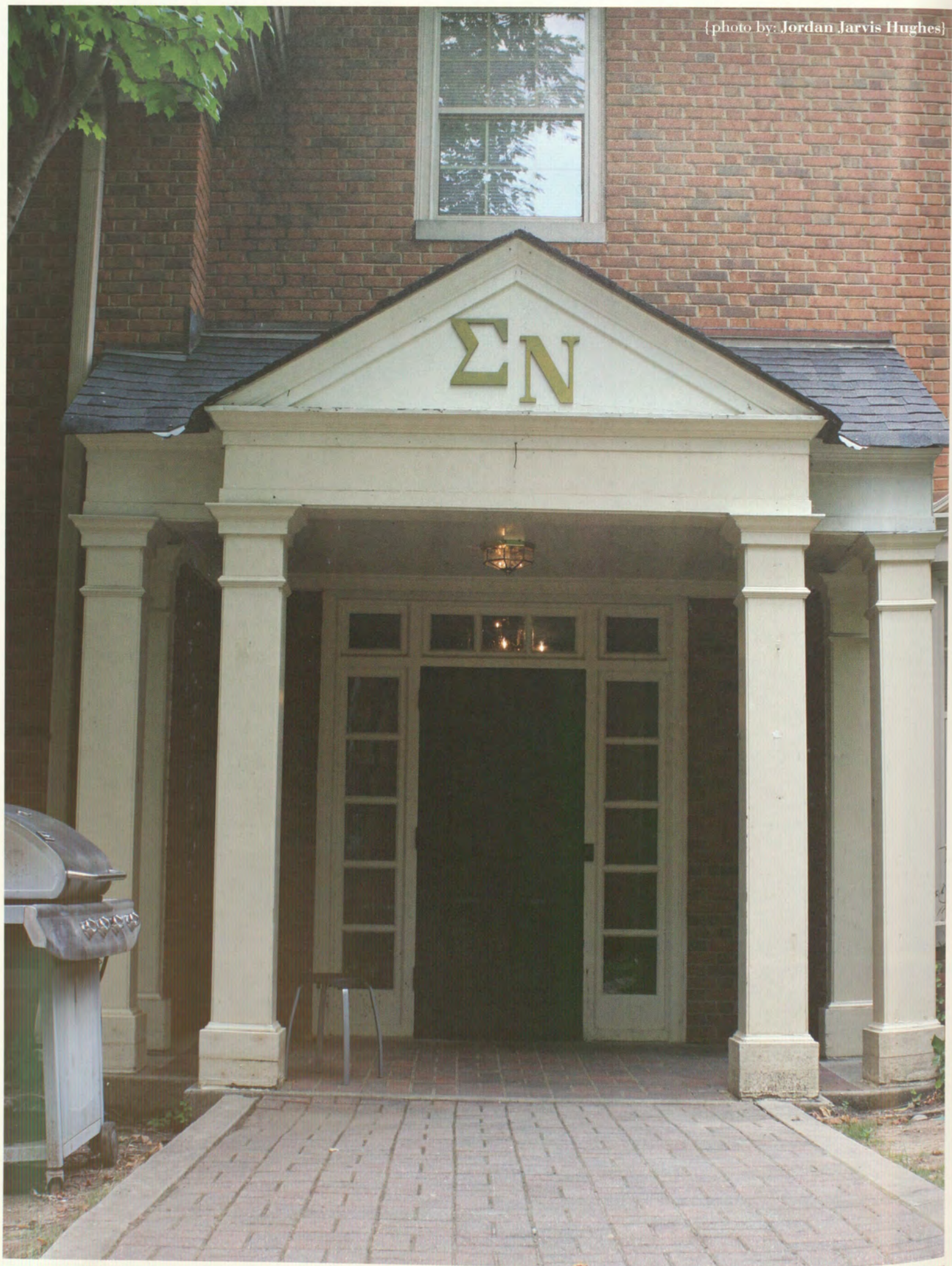
Social events were not the only focus of this strong brotherhood. Philanthropy is a huge part of what makes up a fraternity, and for Samford's chapter of Sigma Chi, that was no different. The Pi chapter brothers participated in a

walk to raise money for suicide prevention and continued to support their main philanthropy, the Children's Miracle Network. President and junior finance major Calvin Fields said, "Philanthropy is a cornerstone of Sigma Chi. As we move forward we are seeking to couple philanthropy with every aspect of our fraternity, especially social events. Sigma Chi believes strongly that being a part of a community, whether it be Samford or any other community, involves a reinvestment back into that sphere."

The Sigma Chi brotherhood was an excellent representation of what true loyalty looks like. Freshman pre-business major Holmes Hill said, "Sigma Chi is an organization built around the principles of leadership and loyalty. I knew that pledging this fraternity was a great decision. I have developed a brotherhood that will last with me long after my college years."

Pi Chapter held strong and persevered, upholding a legacy evidenced by some of the strongest brotherly bonds on campus. Perhaps McDowell coined the crucial loyalty and bonds best. "I'm so lucky," he said. "I have 54 guys willing to take a bullet for me."







# A Real Band Of Brothers

*The brothers of Sigma Nu set a new standard during the 2009-2010 school year.*

*by Tara White*

Committing themselves to service and fraternity, the brotherhood shared was stronger than ever. The 2010 president, junior accounting major Kyle Kehoe, said he was excited for the opportunity to lead. "Sigma Nu is at a great point right now," he said. "We are dedicated to making our organization the best it can be, and becoming an even stronger presence on campus."

The brothers were well on their way of doing this, too. In the fall, their social schedule was packed. They hosted a Woodstock-inspired farm party during Rush week and as a welcome back event. Their next party was a Halloween bash thrown in their chapter room, followed by their annual "White Trash Bash" in November. Although the weather was bitterly cold, brothers and other partygoers came out to enjoy the warmth of a bonfire and the laid-back tunes of high tide blues. Closing out the first semester was the traditional Christmas Toast. The spring semester hosted a rave-theme party in the chapter room and the annual White Rose Formal in May.

"Our parties are a great place for us to hang out and just have fun together," sophomore accounting major Hampton Wilson said. "It's awesome to relax for a while and have a good time with my brothers and our friends." But band parties were not the only events Sigma Nu hosted. The fraternity paired up with two sororities during football season for joint-tailgates, including Alpha Delta Pi and Chi Omega. They paired with Chi Omega for the Homecoming tailgate, as well as the parade and float competition.

"Sigma Nu wants to support Samford athletics as much as possible," Kehoe said. "So many of our guys play on the football team, so anything we can do to support them and the school is what we want."

In addition to pairing with other Greek organizations, the brothers held their first annual Brother/Alum golf tournament in the spring to build brotherhood and form relationships with alumni.

In keeping with the true spirit of fraternity, Sigma Nu upheld their commitment to philanthropy. St. Jude Hospitals are the brother's national philanthropy, and they continued their pledge to service by hosting a letter signing in the fall. The Iota Chapter also decided to stay local and expand their service involvement in the Birmingham community by helping with Habitat for Humanity and serving at the North Birmingham Mission Homeless Shelter.

This evident commitment to philanthropy, social advancement and brotherhood helped the brothers of Sigma Nu have a successful 2009-2010 school year. "This year was great," junior marketing and entrepreneurship major Justin Lett said. "I truly realized what it meant to be a brother of this organization, as it has helped me become a man."

Senior political science major Jordan Puryear's sentiments were similar. "I'm thankful that I was able to spend my four years at Samford in this brotherhood," he said. "The lessons I learned and the friends I made will last with me after graduation and into the rest of my life."





{photo by: Cara Beasley}



{photos by: Meredith McDowell}



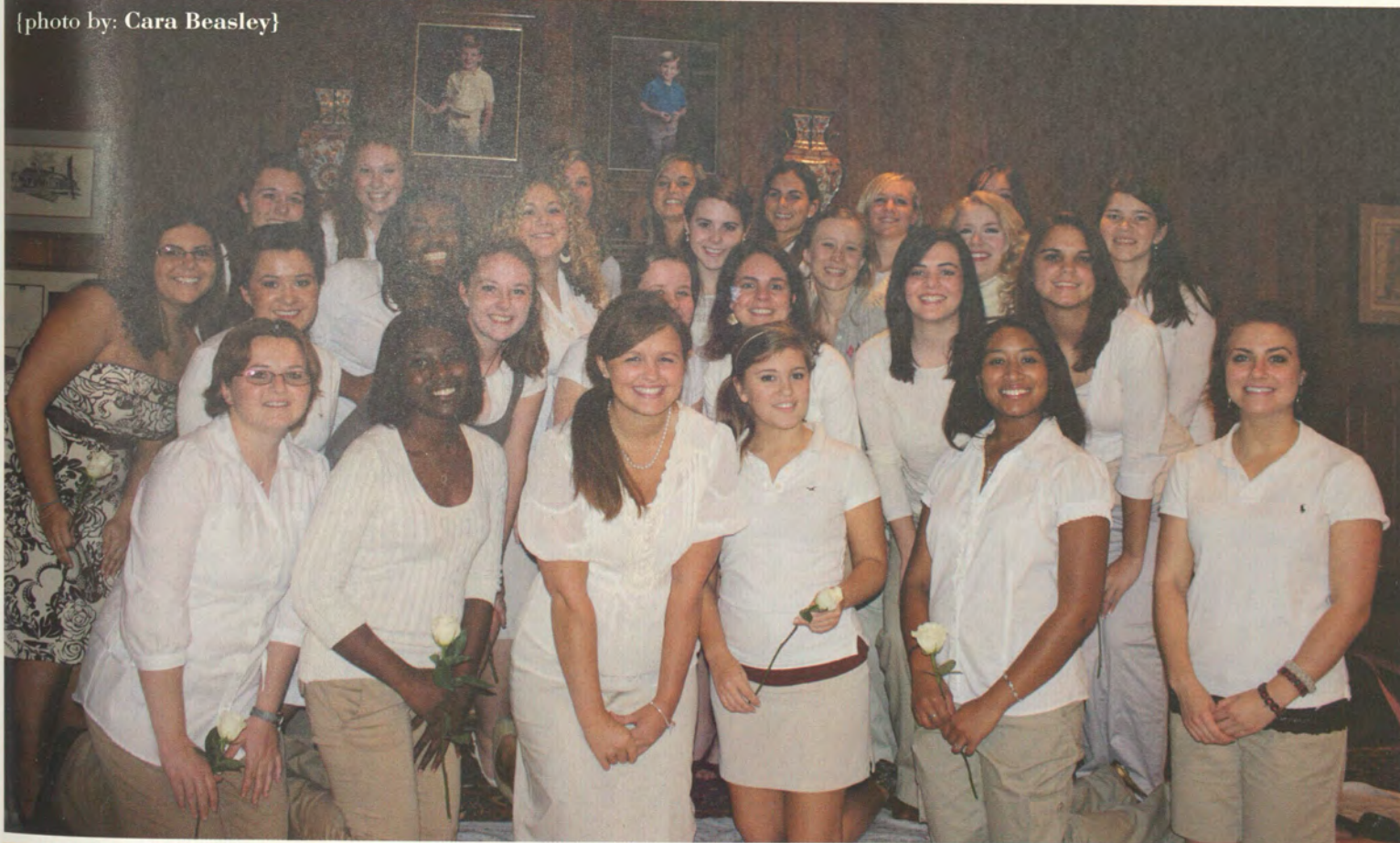
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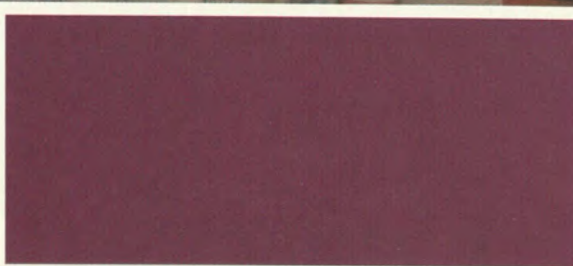
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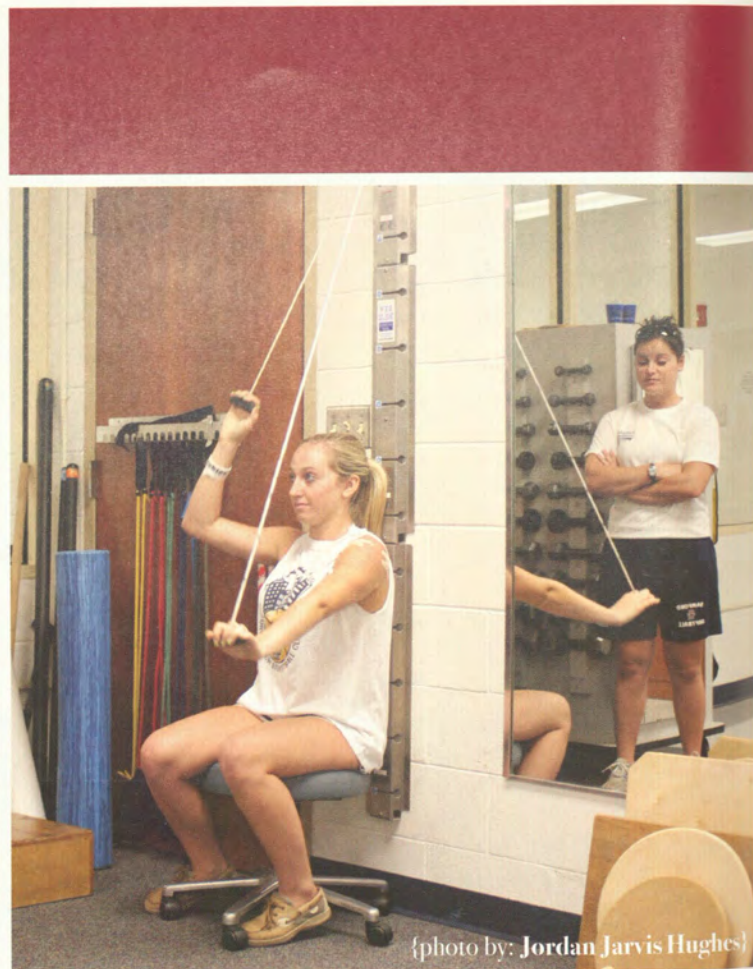


# Competition

*The athletic department prepared  
diligently for a year of victories  
filled with school spirit.*



{photo by: Brittany Harrison}



{photo by: Jordan Jarvis Hughes}





# Sports Headlines

*Samford Athletics Wins SoCon's Germann Cup*

*Roller Named Southeast Region AD of the Year by NACDA*

*Baseball set for first-ever SoCon tournament appearance*

*Fast Start Lifts Baseball Over SoCon-Leading The Citadel, 7-5*

*Baseball Earns 7-5 Road Win At Alabama*

*Jeffrey Merritt's Career-High Outburst Lifts 'Dogs To 60-54 Win Over Chattanooga*

*Tillette In Stable Condition After Suffering Seizure During Samford's 70-67 Win At UNCG*

*Bulldogs Look Sharp In 63-46 Victory Against Chicago State*

*Samford Women Win First Southern Conference Championship, Men Take Tenth*

*Rod Tiffin Named Cross Country Coach Of The Year, Hillary Neal Named Player Of The Month*

*Evans Breaks Career Rushing Record In 27-24 Win At Wofford*

*Football Drops Last-Second Heart-Breaker At Furman, 26-24*

*Football Shuts Out Jacksonville, 27-0*

*Men's Golf Storms Back From 20 Strokes Down To Finish First At Samford Invite*

*Men's Tennis Wins Battle Of The Bulldogs; Defeats The Citadel, 6-1*

*Seaman Qualifies For NCAA Championship On First Day Of Regional Competition*

*Neal, Kirby Lead Samford With School Records At Ole Miss Invitational*

*Women's DMR School Record Highlights Final Day Of Alabama Relay*

*Samford Notches Six School Records At Tiger Paw Invitational*

*Hill's Late Basket Lifts WBB Over Ole Miss, 66-65*

*WBB Headed To SoCon Finals After 66-53 Win Over App. State*

*Women's Basketball Wins Fourth-Straight, 60-49, At Furman*

*London's Career-High Leads Women's Hoops To 70-47 Win Over Charleston*

*Women's Hoops Opens SoCon Play With 74-52 Win Over Chattanooga*

*Bulldogs Rally For Fourth-Place Finish At 2010 SoCon Championship*

*Women's Golf Rallies For Second-Place Finish At Samford Intercollegiate*

*Samford Soccer Finishes Among Nation's Elite In NCAA Rankings*

*Cress Named SoCon Co-Player Of The Year*

*Soccer Wins At The Citadel, 1-0; Remains Undefeated This Season*

*Soccer Earns Decisive 3-0 Win Against Alabama*

*Soccer Plays To 0-0 Draw With No. 25 Auburn In Front Of School-Record Crowd*

*Jordan's Three-Run Home Run Gives Samford Sweet Victory Over UNC Greensboro*

*Ketcham Resigns As Head Softball Coach*

*Softball Snaps Five-Game Skid With Game Two Win Over Mercer*

*Women's Tennis Wins Ninth Straight Match; Earns No. 2 Seed In SoCon Tourney*

*Women's Tennis Hands Furman Its First SoCon Loss In Over 11 Years, 6-1*

*Bulldogs Knock Off Nationally-Ranked Tulane, 4-3*

*Volleyball Wins North Division Outright*

*Samford Sweeps Chattanooga On The Road In Conference Brawl*

*Volleyball Picked To Defend SoCon North Division Title*



# Beyond the T-Shirt

*No sporting event is  
complete without the fans.*

*by Sarah Waller*

The yelling and cheering as the players take the field creates an atmosphere like nothing else. Recognizing this fact, the athletic department promoted student membership in the Red Sea. During Connections and Welcome Back week, nearly 700 students joined the organization. After paying \$10, each member received the well-recognized red t-shirt with "faithful" across the front. Members also received discounts to local businesses like Qdoba and Jason's Deli.

Hollie Huey, the athletic department's director of marketing and communication relations said Samford sporting events saw an increase in attendance over the year. "It all depends on how much students want to get involved," she said. "When more students show up, it is just an all-around good time for players and fans alike."

Senior football player and history major Taylor Strickland said he appreciated the Red Sea. "The Red Sea is a good way to support other athletes at Samford and help make others aware of upcoming games," he said. "Not to mention you get some good deals at supporting stores and restaurants."

Some students joined the Red Sea just for the T-shirt and great deals, but they soon found that being a part of the Red Sea helped enhance their experience at the games. Freshman undeclared major Bobby Ellison said, "Honestly, the only reason I decided to join the Red Sea was because it was the only way to get a Red Sea T-shirt; however, joining the Red Sea has become much more than a T-shirt. It gives me a group of people to cheer with during any sporting event."

This year, the members of the Red Sea showed their support to the athletes by purchasing a membership and wearing the red T-shirt, but more importantly, they showed the support in the stands, cheering them on, win or lose.

**Right:** Screaming students in the Red Sea show their support throughout the football season and other sporting events.





{photos by: Evan Chandlee}



Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Creek Life Competition Academics







# Beyond the Field

*Some might not realize what type of impact participation in collegiate athletics has on the lives of student athletes or what types of invaluable life lessons can be gained from the experience.*

*by Jonathan Lowery (Tuscaloosa, AL)*

## **Samford Football, Wide Receiver #12, 2006-2009**

Although most of us student athletes don't realize it until we get a little older, being a student athlete teaches so much more than the game itself. It also teaches about life! Attributes such as perseverance, mental toughness, strong work ethic and the value of positive relationships are not only necessary to succeed on the field but also in life.

In August 2005 when I first arrived on campus to officially begin my journey as a Samford student athlete, I had no idea what to expect or any concept the type of impression the experience would have on my life. During my first few days of football practice, I quickly learned things weren't going to come as easy as they had before. No longer was I one of the premier players for my team like I had been in high school. Instead, I was just a struggling freshman attempting to learn a new coach, a new team and a new position.

Through hard work, persistence and the help of many wonderful people including teammates, coaches, administrators and family, I began to see my situation turn around as my personal production on the field of play steadily

began to increase. Since the addition of head coach Pat Sullivan in the 2007 season, Samford football has also experienced unprecedented increase in productivity pertaining not only to performance, but also in attendance, facilities and competition.

It has definitely been my pleasure to be associated with such a wonderful athletic team and program for the past five years, but the main thing I take away from the experience are the relationships I've built with so many outstanding individuals. So with that being said, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone I have encountered during my time at this fine institution. Although my playing career will not, the friendships I've built, memories I've made and the lessons I've learned as a Samford student athlete truly will last a lifetime.



# A Rewarding Experience

*During my five-year tenure at Samford,  
I was affected by many things and learned  
to appreciate my college experience.*

*by Monica Maxwell (Madison, AL)*

*Women's Basketball three-year starter and all-time leading  
3-point shooter in program history.*

Athletically, it was a journey from the moment I stepped foot on campus. My first year was pretty tough because I had shoulder surgery and was forced to red shirt. Constantly rehabbing and regaining my strength, I was able to maintain my position on the team and play the remaining years in the program. During my play, not only did I have fun, but also had the opportunity to compete against great competition. Therefore, Samford athletics has had a positive effect on me as a person. I have learned to be patient yet aggressive, strategic yet spontaneous, poised and an even more persevering athlete. Samford athletics has made me learn that through life's struggles, I must always turn a negative into a positive.

This year was the best season in our program's short history. Our record was more than 20 wins for the fourth consecutive year, and we made it to our first post-season tournament. Unfortunately, we were unable to conquer our first conference championship this year in the conference finals, but we were able to rebound and capitalize with a win against Ole Miss in the Women's National Invitational Tournament.

When I graduate from this program, I will miss a number of things. First and foremost, I will miss the memories that I shared with my teammates that I have made throughout the years, as well as my coaches. I will miss the bus rides, the experience of playing college basketball, free gear and, especially, the free food. I have had so much fun over the years, and I appreciate the coaches for giving me the opportunity to play at such a great institution with such a supportive community of people.





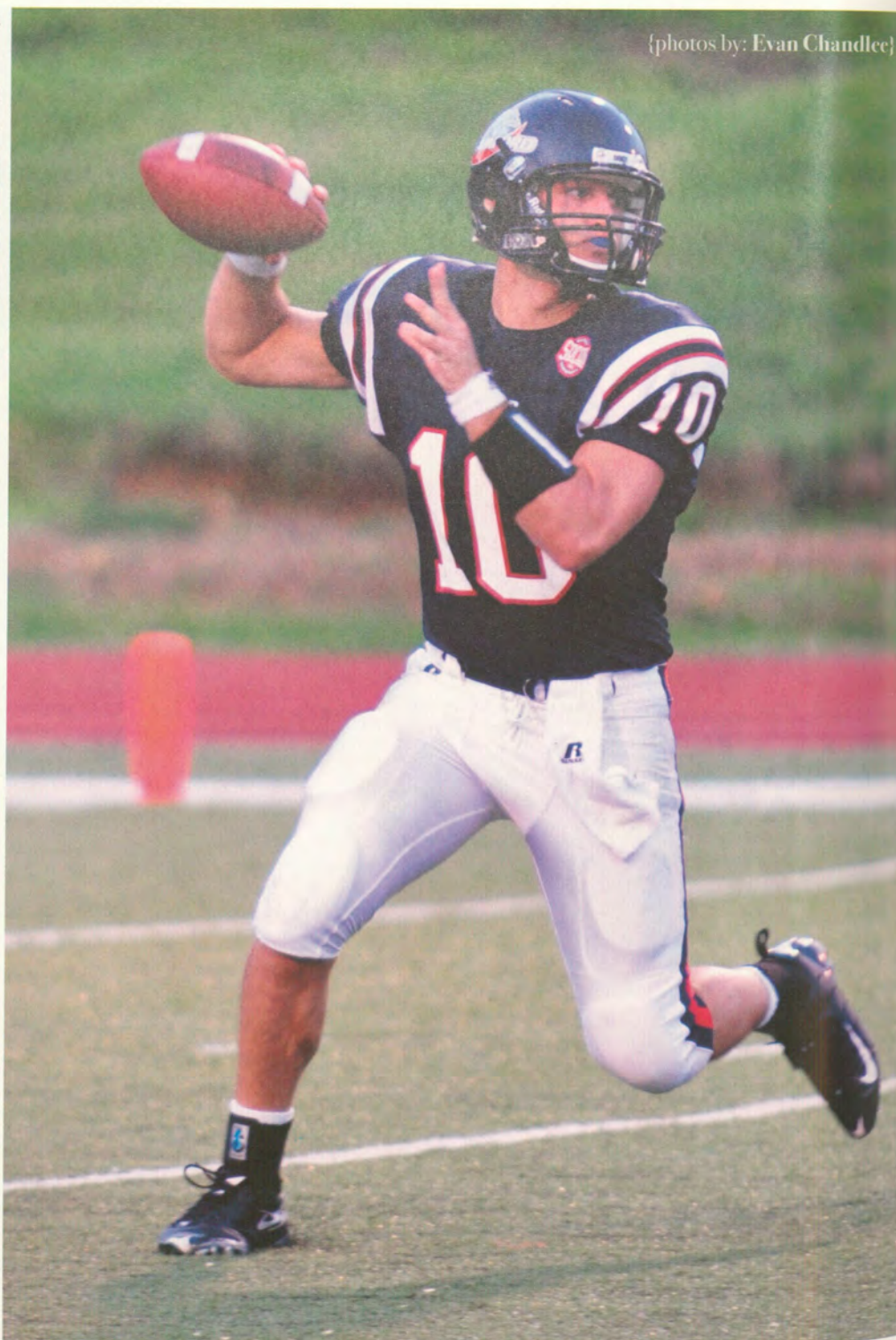




Right: Quarterback Dustin Taliaferro looks for a teammate down field to pass to.

Below: The Samford linemen prepare for the ball to be snapped.

{photos by: Evan Chandlee}



Top: Running back Chris Evans dodges a defender in the game against Jacksonville State.

Right: Samford teammates honor the alma mater of the red and blue.





# Running into Record Books

*After defying all expectations for a winning season in 2008, the football team looked to contend for the 2009 Southern Conference championship in their second season in the conference.*

*by Dan Hall and Steven Lyles*

With 14 returning starters, including sophomore quarterback and business major Dustin Taliaferro, junior running back and sports medicine major Chris Evans and junior linebacker and sports administration major Bryce Smith, the 2009 Bulldogs appeared to be a team on the rise in the SoCon. However, a sluggish offense and an inability to win close games caused the team to end the season with a disappointing record, 5-6 (3-5 SoCon). The Bulldogs finished seventh in the SoCon in scoring offense and lost three games by seven points or less.

Samford opened the season on the road against Conference USA power Central Florida. A receiving touchdown by junior wide receiver and accounting major Richie Fordham and an interception return touchdown by senior linebacker and sociology major Ryan Anderson gave the Bulldogs a third quarter lead. With his team up by three to start the fourth quarter, junior defensive end and sports administration major John Michael Clay blocked a UCF field goal attempt to preserve the lead. However, UCF scored later in the quarter and delivered the Bulldogs a heartbreaking 28-24 loss.

"I don't know when I've been around a group that laid more on the line," head coach Pat Sullivan said. "We've got a lot of full grown men, who laid their guts on the line against a good Central Florida team."

Although the score was not in their favor, the Bulldogs gained a moral victory from the tough game.

"The opening game where we almost beat UCF was really exciting and gave us a lot of hope for the rest of the season," sophomore backup quarterback and business major Connor Lowery said.

The team was determined to achieve a different outcome in its home opener against Jacksonville University. The Bulldogs entered the game with high energy and blasted the Dolphins 27-0. Taliaferro threw for 225 yards and two touchdowns in the victory and was named SoCon student athlete of the week.

The following week, Samford earned a 31-12 win over cross-town rival Miles College. Trailing 12-3 at halftime, the Bulldogs scored 28 unanswered points in the second half to defeat the Golden Bears. Evans rushed for 162 yards and a touchdown to contribute to the victory.

"At halftime, Coach Sullivan told us to get back to basics," freshman offensive lineman and journalism and mass communication major Jacob Kirschenbaum said. "We are a physical football team and we needed to play that way."

Conference play began the next week, and the Bulldogs dropped four of their first five SoCon games.

The lone victory in the five game stretch came in a home game against Western Carolina. The Bulldog defense forced three turnovers and held the Catamount offense to 163 total yards to help deliver a 16-3 win.

Two weeks later, Samford lost 26-24 to Furman. The Bulldogs rallied from a 26-10 fourth quarter deficit, but the Paladins blocked a 39-yard field goal attempt by freshman kicker and nursing major Cameron Yaw as time expired to preserve the win. Taliaferro threw for 306 yards, and senior wide receiver and exercise science major Jonathan Lowery caught eight passes for 143 yards in the losing effort.

"It was a disappointing, gut-wrenching loss for our team," Sullivan said. "For two years in a row against Furman, we've lost on a final play. We've got to find a way to improve that."

The Bulldogs rebounded to win consecutive conference games in November against Georgia Southern and Wofford.

The Bulldogs defeated Georgia Southern 31-10 in front of a large Homecoming crowd. Evans rushed for 96 yards and Smith had 12 tackles and two interceptions.

The following week, Evans exploded for 257 rushing yards on 37 carries in a 27-24 conference road win against Wofford. With his great effort, Evans passed former Bulldog Jerome Russell for first place on Samford's all-time career rushing list.

"It's something I'll remember forever," Evans said. "It's real special to me to be on top of the list of all the great players that have come through. To be recognized with them is a tremendous honor."

In their season finale, the Bulldogs lost 27-7 to No. 10 Elon. With the offense struggling, junior punter and nursing major Bob Hooper punted seven times for an average of 45.3 yards per kick. Hooper was named SoCon special teams player of the week. For the season, Hooper ranked second in the SoCon and 12th nationally in punting average, 41.5 yards-per-kick.

Hooper, Evans, Smith and senior center and management major Jon Weber were named to the All-SoCon first team at the conclusion of the season. Clay was named to the All-SoCon second team.

Evans finished the season with 1152 rushing yards, giving him 3,469 rushing yards for his career. He ranked first in the SoCon in rushing yards per game and became the first Samford player to rush for 1,000 yards in three consecutive seasons.

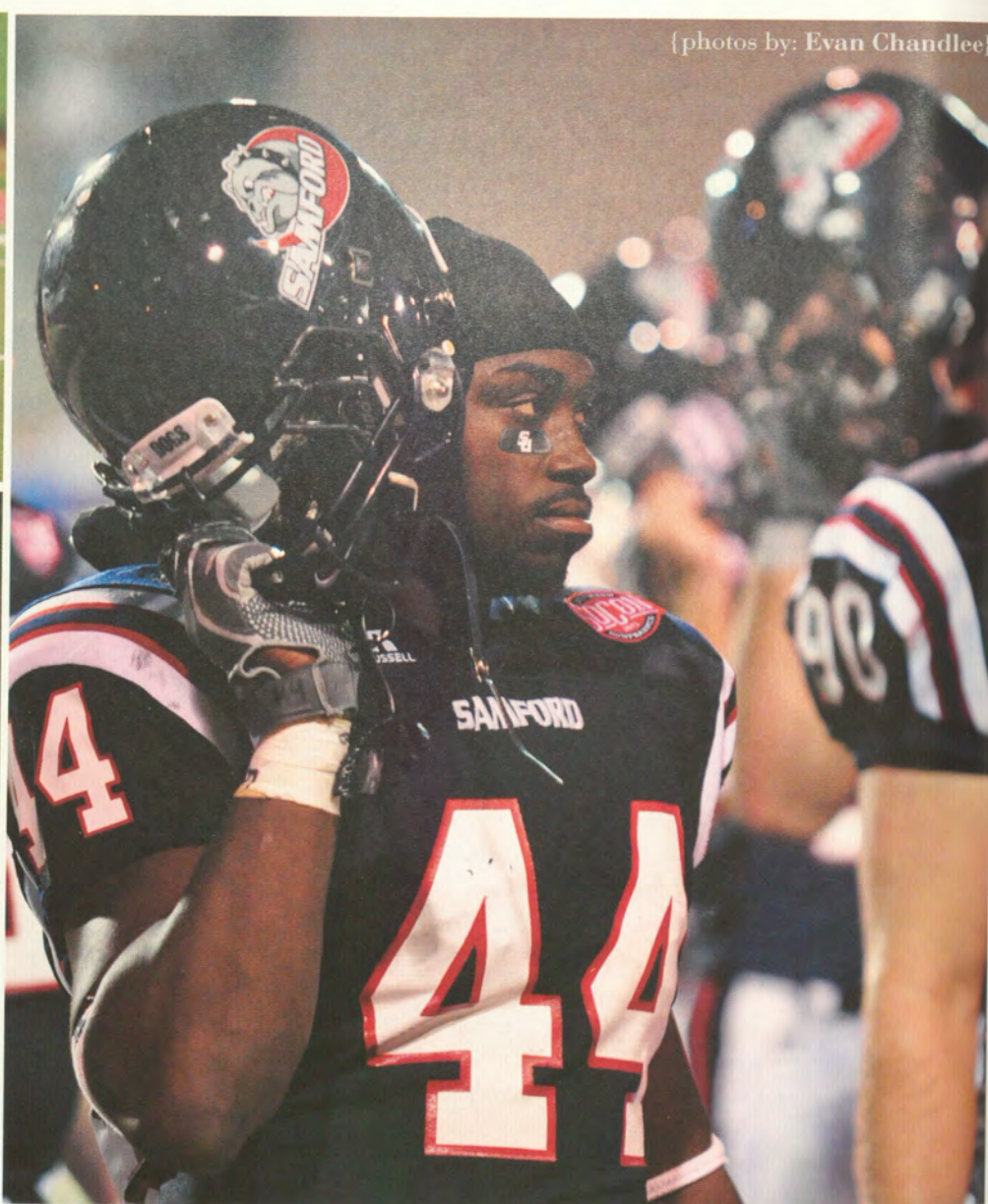
Anchored by Smith and Clay, the Bulldog defense finished second in the conference in total defense and scoring defense. Smith led the nation in solo tackles per game (6.7).

"Our defense came in second in the conference, and we really progressed as a team throughout the season," Clay said. "This season wasn't what we wanted it to be, but we're really working hard to improve for next season."

Sullivan said the team's sub-.500 record was not an indicator of the great effort his players gave on the field in 2009.

"I was extremely proud of the team's play as a whole this year," Sullivan said. "We weren't really satisfied with the goals we wanted to achieve, but the team had an outstanding year in terms of effort."











# Defending the Title

*The volleyball team played a streaky 2009 season that culminated in the program's second consecutive SoCon North Division championship.*

*By: Dan Hall*

The Bulldogs opened the season by winning the Samford Invitational with victories over Louisiana-Monroe, Southern Mississippi and Tennessee State. After winning their first three matches of the season, the Bulldogs dropped seven straight matches, including straight-set losses to Central Arkansas, Creighton and Belmont.

With four freshmen in the starting lineup, the team struggled to find its identity and style of play early in the season. However, a difficult non-conference schedule allowed the young players to gain valuable playing experience that helped accelerate their development on the court. Following the seven-match losing skid, the Bulldogs rolled off eight straight wins, including victories in their first five conference matches. During that stretch, freshman outside hitter and exercise science major Allie Bettinger led the team in digs and kills and was named September SoCon Player of the Month.

"Our non-conference schedule helped our young kids to see the difference between club and high school volleyball and high end Division I volleyball," head coach Derek Schroeder said. "It definitely was a factor in us playing so well early on in our conference schedule."

Following the eight-match winning streak, Samford split its remaining 12 matches and finished with an overall record of 17-13. The Bulldogs final SoCon record of 11-5 earned the team its second straight SoCon North Division title and a No. 1 seed in the SoCon Tournament.

"Two division championships mean a ton to this program," Schroeder said. "Those two trophies show our fans, supporters, parents and recruits that we have replaced a culture of losing with an environment of winning and are pushing for more and more."

The Bulldogs' dreams of winning the program's first SoCon tournament championship were shattered with a first-round four-set loss to College of Charleston. Samford won the first set of the match 25-23, but College of Charleston battled back to win the next three sets (24-26, 23-25, 20-25). Senior

middle blocker and biology major Sheriden Stangohr led the Bulldogs with 16 kills, two solo blocks, three block assists and four digs while hitting .303 in the match.

For the season, Stangohr ranked third in the SoCon in hitting percentage, fourth in kills and second in blocks. She was named to the All-Southern Conference first team for her strong play.

"Making the first team All-SoCon was an honor, and I was very fortunate to be recognized," Stangohr said. "It doesn't just represent individual hard work, but it is also attributed to my teammates' hard work and success as well because I feel that volleyball is the ultimate team sport."

Stangohr finished her career at Samford as the program's all-time leader in block assists and hitting percentage. In February, she was invited to attend the U.S. Volleyball National Team tryouts at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"The USA tryout was awesome," Stangohr said. "It was very exciting to play with the girls that I had only watched on TV or seen in the NCAA Final Four round of the tournament. It was just really exciting to get the chance to play with really good athletes from all over the U.S."

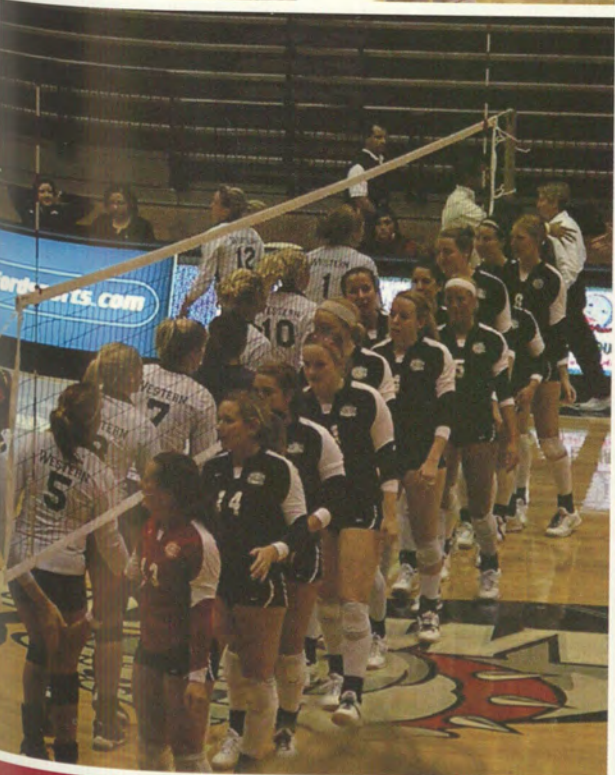
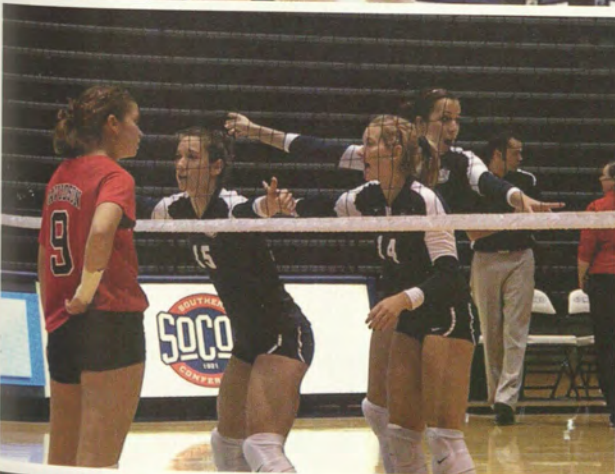
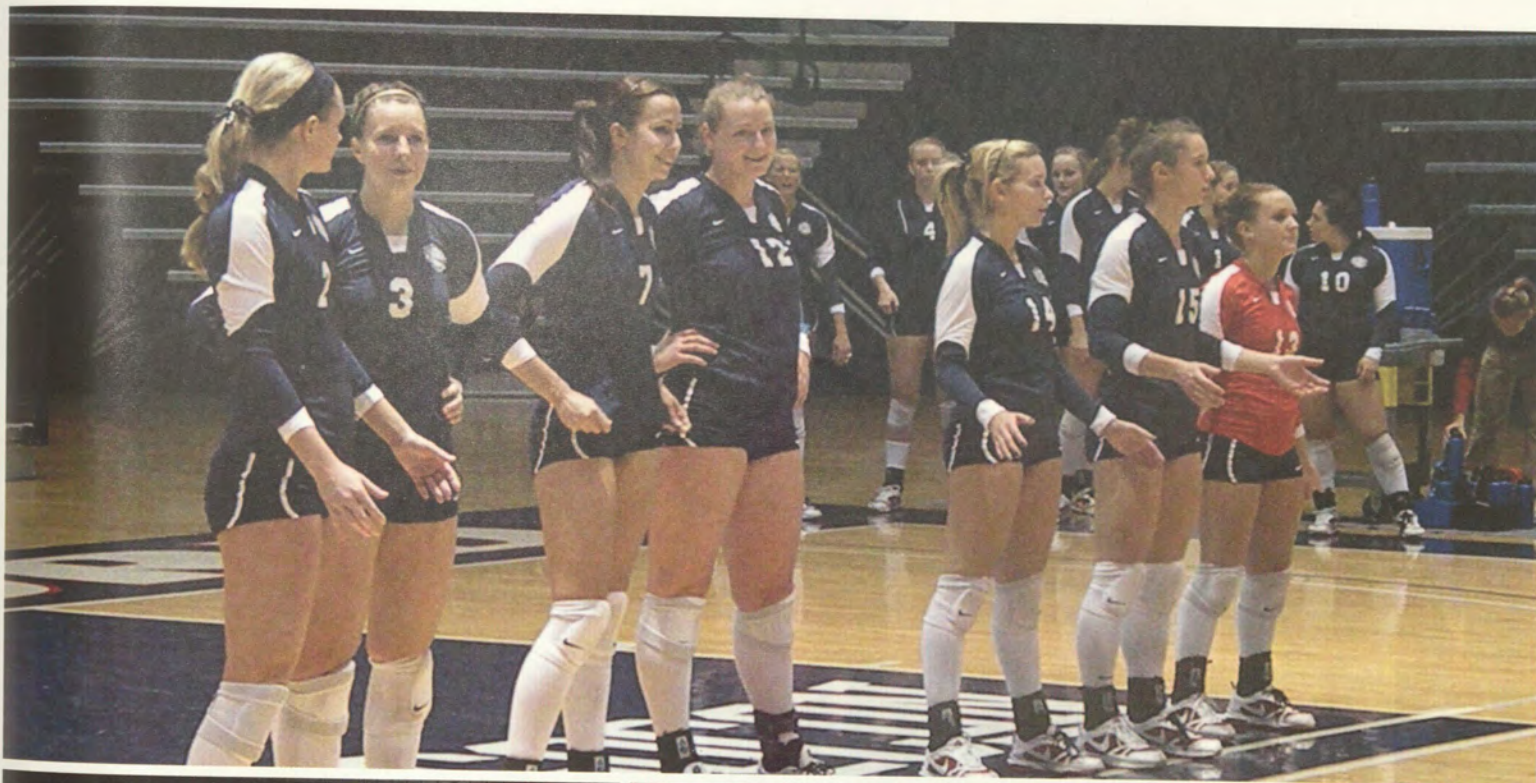
In March, the Bulldogs kicked off their spring season with a fun and creative boot camp. Schroeder brought in a drill sergeant and had the players participate in military drills, a hike up Shades Mountain, life-saving techniques and paintball.

"Boot camp was my brain child and really it was developed to give the kids a break from routine but also to push them physically and mentally in other areas," Schroeder said. "These kids give me and their program so much on a daily basis that I like to give them something unique every spring to help them stay balanced."

The innovative idea received a positive response from the returning players.

"I was very happy with our spring season this year. Our team chemistry could not be any better, and everyone got better during the spring," junior setter and early childhood education major Hillary Fountain said. "Our week of boot camp was definitely tough, but it was fun because we were doing things that we were not accustomed to. After all of our accomplishments this spring, I expect us to do very well next year."





{photos by: Katie Willis}







{ photos by: Don Orr }





# Getting Defensive

*Bouncing back from a losing season in 2008, the women's soccer team produced a record-setting 2009 campaign.*

*by Dan Hall and Haley Shore*

The team compiled a win-loss record of 12-1-5, (7-1-3 SoCon) and advanced to the SoCon tournament semifinals for the second consecutive season. The Bulldogs' overall winning percentage of .806 set a school record and ranked eighth nationally.

"We were determined to win a lot more games this year," senior forward and nursing major Amber Cress said. "A lot could have happened to us as a team last year. We could have given up, blamed it on the coaches or blamed it on each other, but we decided to be better than that." In the season's opening game, Samford played to a 0-0 draw with No. 25 Auburn in front of a school-record crowd of 1,264 fans at Bulldog Field. The Bulldogs followed their impressive opening game with back-to-back 3-0 home victories against Alabama and Francis Marion.

The team won its next four games, all by a score of 1-0, before dropping a 1-0 decision to conference rival College of Charleston on Sept. 27. Sophomore goalkeeper and biochemistry major Alyssa Whitehead made a career-high nine saves but also allowed her first goal of the season in the Bulldogs only regular-season loss.

In the month of September, Whitehead tallied four shutouts in five games and allowed only one goal against 23 shot attempts. She was named SoCon player of the month for her play.

Following their loss to College of Charleston, the Bulldogs went undefeated through the final nine regular season games. The nine game unbeaten streak was highlighted by a 2-1 double overtime win against Furman, a 2-1 win at UNC Greensboro, a 5-0 win against Georgia Southern on senior night and a 3-1 win at Chattanooga to secure their second consecutive SoCon tournament berth.

The victory against UNC Greensboro handed the Spartans their first SoCon home loss since 2005. Facing an early 1-0 deficit, the Bulldogs got goals from junior forward and nutrition major Leah Leppert and senior forward and Cress to gain the historic victory.

In the season finale, Samford used goals from senior defender and nursing major Cindy Spiker, junior defender and mathematics and secondary education major Paige Lanter and sophomore forward and exercise science major Lauren Cook to defeat Chattanooga 3-1 and earn the No. 3 seed in the SoCon tournament.

In the tournament, the Bulldogs faced a rematch with No. 2 seed College of Charleston, the only team to defeat them in the regular season. The teams played 110 minutes of scoreless soccer. The match then moved to a penalty kick shoot-out where the Cougars defeated Samford 6-5 and ended the Bulldogs' season.

"In many ways, this is the most successful season we have had," head coach Todd Yelton said. "We came up a little short of our goal of the NCAA tournament, but I am tremendously proud of the girls. We only gave up six goals all season and had one loss, and I think this speaks volumes. This is one of the better teams we've had at Samford."

The Bulldogs shattered the school's all-time record for fewest goals allowed in a season (6). The team ended the year as the nation's top-ranked team in both goals-against average (0.31) and save percentage (0.92).

Whitehead finished the season ranked first in the nation in goals-against average (0.31) and third in save percentage (0.91), allowing only six goals on 169 shots faced.

The Bulldogs finished the year ranked sixth in the nation in shutout percentage (0.67), earning shutouts in 12 of their 18 matches.

"We've definitely come a long way in eight seasons," Yelton said. "When I first got here, it would have been a dream to be this highly ranked in the national statistics, but it's a huge accomplishment and our players have really worked hard for it. I've been blessed to watch this program grow and be known across the nation as having one of the best defensive units around."

Cress finished the season ranked 18th in the nation in assists per game and concluded her career at Samford in third place on the school's all-time goals scored list. She was named 2009 SoCon co-player of the year and All-SoCon first team. Joining Cress on the All-SoCon first team were Whitehead, senior forward and family studies major Natalie Fleming and sophomore defender and undeclared major Theresa Henry. Freshman defender and nursing major Sabbath McKiernan-Allen was named to the SoCon all-freshman team.

The Bulldogs' record-setting season set new standards for future generations of Samford soccer. However, the team hoped to take its success one step further the next season. "No matter what we ended up with this season, we know we are capable of winning a conference championship, so that's what we're aiming for next year," junior midfielder and sports administration major Kelly Shaffer said.



# Not Without a Fight

*The men's basketball team fought hard this year in a season that head coach Jimmy Tillette said "has definitely been the most difficult season that I've ever been associated with."*

*by Michael Kline*

Tragedy hit before the season even began. Senior forward Jim Griffin was found dead in his Beeson Woods room on Sept. 8, 2009. Griffin died in his sleep of a heart condition. "Jim was loved by everybody on the team. It was just a tough loss," sophomore guard and sports administration major Kaylin Johnson said.

Senior guard and family studies major Trey Montgomery, who was Griffin's roommate, said Griffin would always be with the team. "Jim is always going to be in our hearts," Montgomery said. "He was the heart and backbone of our team. He had a sense of hope and happiness that no matter the situation, it was all going to be alright."

The Samford community rallied to support the team, friends and family of Griffin, holding a memorial service and printing T-shirts with Griffin's name and number "3" that read "6th Man." On the court, the team's uniforms displayed a decal with Griffin's number, and Griffin's jersey was retired during a pre-game ceremony on senior night in February. A crowd of nearly 2000 Samford fans, students and members of Griffin's family witnessed the ceremony.

"Just seeing everyone here really shows how much Jim really meant to everyone," senior forward and public administration major Bryan Friday said.

The first three games of the season were close games against strong opponents. Samford lost by only two points to Wisconsin-Green Bay and only three points to UAB and Kent State. The Bulldogs also lost non-conference road games against Big 12 opponents Texas A&M and Texas Tech and in-state rival Alabama.

Key victories during the season included non-conference wins over Eastern Michigan and Chicago State and conference series sweeps of SoCon rivals Elon and Chattanooga.

Head Coach Jimmy Tillette collapsed in a seizure during the Jan. 23 UNC Greensboro game. Tillette was rushed to

a local hospital to undergo further tests. Despite the scare, the Bulldogs were able to regroup and earn a victory over the Spartans.

"After he was taken off the court, I think we played with a little more purpose and a little more motivation," Montgomery said. "When tragedy strikes and accidents happen, there are people that come together and push each other to succeed, and that's what we were able to do."

With his strength restored, Tillette returned for the Feb. 4 Citadel game with his team in the midst of a three-game losing streak. Despite the return of their coach, the Bulldogs continued to struggle, losing ten of their final 12 games.

Samford finished the season with a record of 11-20 (5-13 SoCon), and ended the season with a SoCon tournament first-round loss to The Citadel.

Despite the setbacks of the season, the team had many bright spots. Montgomery became the 21st player to reach 1,000 total points in Samford's history. He was also named an NSCA All-American, earned the Kevy McInnis award for leadership and the inaugural Jim Griffin Practice Hard award.

For the season, junior guard and math education major Josh Davis led the team in scoring (12.5 ppg), sophomore forward and business major Jeffrey Merritt led the team in rebounding (4.5 rpg) and Montgomery led the team in assists (2.97 apg).

"The final record of our team this season is no reflection of the character of our team. Our team kept trying to move forward all year long, and they demonstrated a lot of character during those tough stretches. We've never had an effort issue or an off-the-court discipline issue, so our final record was not because of any lack of effort of these guys," Tillette said.

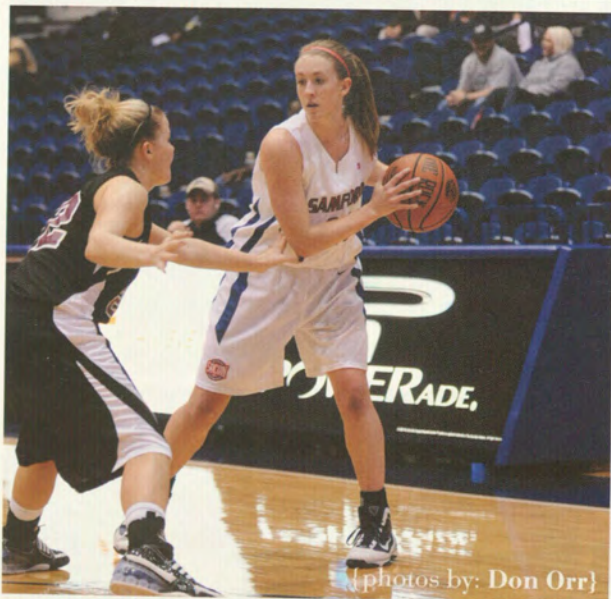


{photos by: Don Orr}



Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Greek Life Competition Academics





{ photos by: Don Orr }





# Shooting for Success

*The 2009-2010 season was the most successful in the 13-year history of the women's basketball program. The team finished the season with a record of 23-11 (14-6 SoCon).*

*by Dan Hall*

The Bulldogs' 23 wins tied the school record for wins in a season. Non-conference action included wins over Jacksonville State, McNeese State, Evansville, North Texas and Norfolk State and a 69-60 road loss to No. 20 Virginia. The Bulldogs completed Southern Conference play as the conference's second-ranked team. At the conclusion of the regular season, junior guard and journalism and mass communication major Emily London and junior forward and nursing major Savannah Hill were named to the All-Southern Conference Team. London finished second in the nation in three-point field goal percentage (49.2 percent). Senior guard and exercise science major Megan Wilderotter received the conference's Ann Lashley Inspiration award.

As the No. 2 seed in the SoCon tournament, the Bulldogs advanced to the tournament championship game, where they lost to Chattanooga 72-67.

Following the SoCon Tournament, the team received a bid to compete in the Women's National Invitation Tournament. The WNIT berth was the program's first national postseason tournament experience. Samford hosted its first round matchup against SEC power Ole Miss, a team with three victories over nationally ranked opponents during the regular season. An enthusiastic crowd of nearly 1000 fans in the Pete Hanna Center saw the Bulldogs defeat the Rebels 66-65.

With her team down by one point, Hill hit a layup with five seconds left in the game to clinch the victory. The game-winning layup accounted for two of Hill's 19 points in the game, while London scored 21.

"It was very exciting to beat Ole Miss," Hill said. "It was probably the most exciting win of my career so far. We knew we could beat them if we played our best, and we did. The hard work from preseason and postseason last year paid off for us."

Head coach Mike Morris said the excitement and exposure that resulted from his team's victory over a well-known opponent in postseason play created a memorable night for his program.

"Hosting was a great opportunity, and we were fortunate to draw Ole Miss with their name recognition," Morris said.

"Being able to host a postseason WNIT game created a lot of excitement in the community. We got more exposure and coverage before and after that game than we have all year combined. The dramatic way in which we won the basketball game was a great experience and was exciting for the fans."

Three days later, the Bulldogs traveled to Springfield, Mo., to take on Missouri State in a WNIT second round game. Leading 57-47 with less than six minutes left in the game, the Golden Bears went on a 16-3 run to secure the 73-50 victory and end Samford's season.

Hill scored 12 points to lead the Bulldogs. Wilderotter and senior guard and sociology major Monica Maxwell both added 10 points in their last game in Samford uniforms.

Maxwell concluded her career as the all-time leading three-point shooter in school history. She said she was glad to experience postseason play before the end of her career.

"Our first season of postseason play was incredible," Maxwell said. "It felt like a dream. To know that Megan and I are leaving and left an amazing and very successful team behind is an accomplishment in itself."

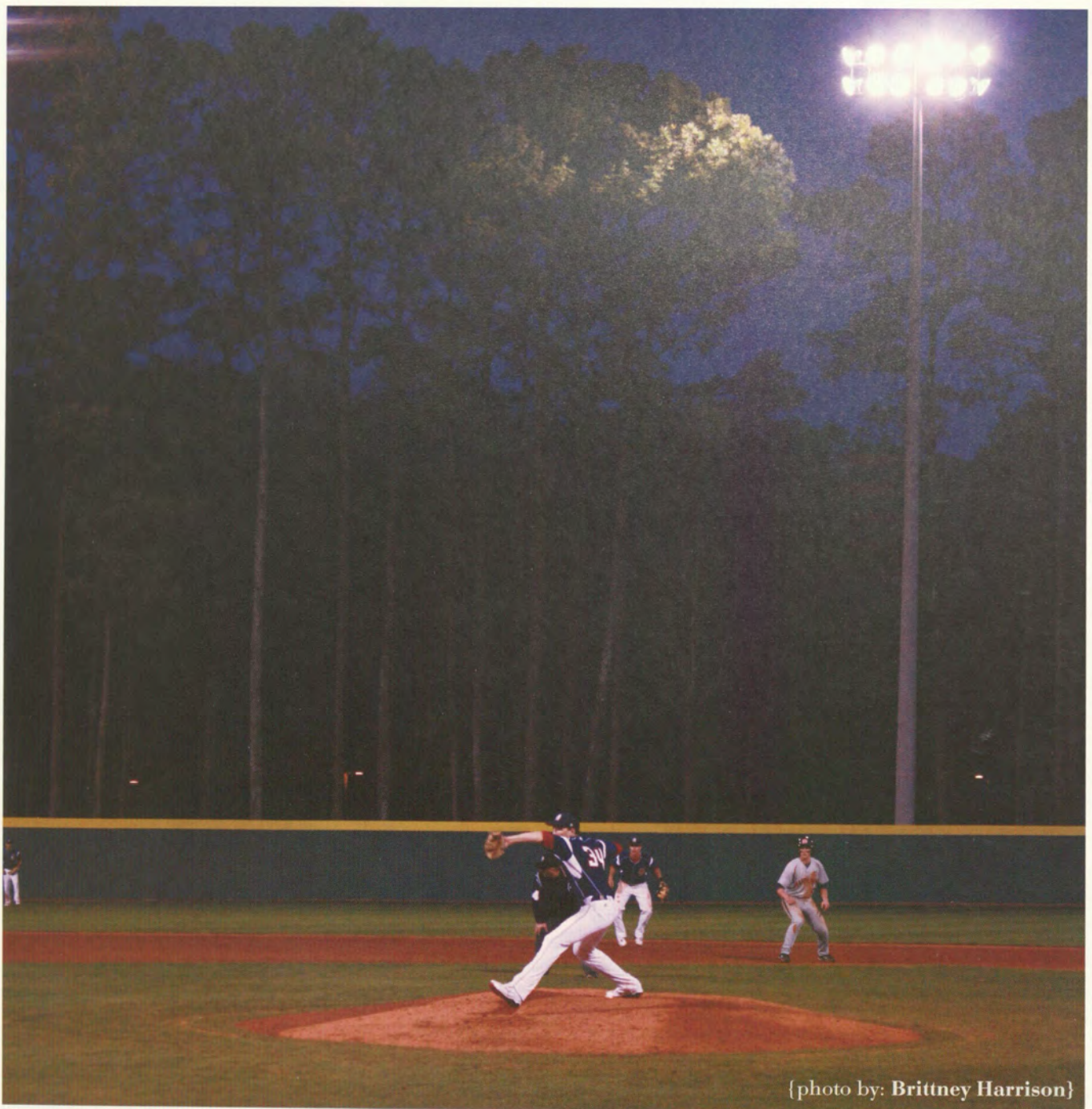
Morris said he would miss the experience and leadership of his two fifth-year seniors. "Monica was one of the best shooters we've ever had, and Megan really set the tone on the defensive end. Collectively, they both produced, both believed and had great leadership," he said.

Despite the loss of Maxwell and Wilderotter, the Bulldogs kept a strong core of key players, including London, Hill, sophomore guard and economics and finance major Alex Crow, sophomore guard and undeclared major Paige Anderson and freshman forward and nursing major Hannah Dawson.

Morris said he hoped the postseason experience his team gained will lead to an NCAA tournament berth.

"The two teams we played were very close to being in the NCAA tournament," he said "To play against those teams will create a sense of urgency for our team next year to take another step to the NCAA tournament. I hope it has a very positive carry over to our team."





{photo by: Brittney Harrison}



{photos by: Shannon Dille}





# B ringing Their "A" Game

*The baseball team finished a remarkable year with a record of 31-25, (17-12 SoCon).*

*by Steven Lyles*

The team won regular season series against perennial strong SoCon teams, such as Citadel and College of Charleston and qualified for the SoCon Tournament as the No. 5 seed.

"We set out to prove that we can compete in the SoCon and we've proved that we can do that," head coach Casey Dunn said. "We had four seniors in Mason Meredith, Wayne Miller, Trey Hayes and David Schulze who stepped up at the plate consistently, and Lex Rutledge and Andrew Jones proved themselves on the mound throughout the season."

The Bulldogs were 11-10 through their first 21 games but hit their stride in late March, winning 10 of their next 11. The hot streak included a 9-0 record to start conference play and a 7-5 victory over instate rival Alabama in Tuscaloosa. In May, Samford defeated eventual SEC tournament runner-up Alabama again 8-7 at Joe Lee Griffin Field. The win was the Bulldogs' third straight over the Crimson Tide in the past two seasons.

The Bulldogs also earned a season series sweep over cross-town rival UAB. In the first game of the series, hosted by UAB, the Bulldogs defeated the Blazers 8-1. In the second game, hosted at Joe Lee Griffin Field, the Blazers led the Bulldogs 8-2 heading into the bottom of the sixth inning. However, the Bulldogs scored nine runs in the final three innings to produce an 11-10 comeback victory.

The most exciting series of the season was the Bulldogs' late-season SoCon weekend series with the Citadel. Citadel entered the series as the SoCon's top-ranked team, boasting a 16-2 conference record. In the first game of the series, Samford faced Citadel's ace, eventual Second Team All-American and Southern Conference Pitcher of the Year Asher Wojciechowski. In front of nearly twenty MLB scouts, the Samford offense pounded Wojciechowski for 10 hits and seven runs to earn a 7-5 win. Citadel evened the series in Game 2 with a 14-6 win. In Game 3, the Samford bullpen blew an 8-6 ninth inning lead by allowing Citadel to score five runs in the top of the ninth to take an 11-8 lead. In the bottom of the ninth, junior infielder and sports medicine major HYPERLINK "<http://samfordsports.cstv.com/sports/m-basebl/>

[mtt/johnson\\_michael00.html](http://johnson_michael00.html)" Michael Johnson walked with two outs and the bases loaded to drive in senior infielder and exercise science major Mason Meredith to make the score 11-9.

After a pitching change by The Citadel, junior first baseman and political science major HYPERLINK "[http://samfordsports.cstv.com/sports/m-basebl/mtt/swann\\_tripp00.html](http://samfordsports.cstv.com/sports/m-basebl/mtt/swann_tripp00.html)" Tripp Swann entered the game as a pinch hitter. The players were then pulled off the field due to lightning in the area. The weather delay lasted for more than an hour. When play resumed, Swann walked to drive in senior sociology major Bo Smith to make it an 11-10 game. With an 0-2 count, senior centerfielder and international relations major Wayne Miller singled up the middle to drive in Johnson and Hayes for a walk-off 12-11 win.

Senior outfielder and management and entrepreneurship major David Schulze said the strong team chemistry helped the players deliver clutch performances in key moments of big games.

"This team has been really close. We get along really well," Schulze said. "The leadership has done a good job of bringing the team together. We all have a common goal, and we strive to be competitive. We've proven we can beat anybody when we play our best."

"The team really clicked, and we pick each other up and help each other out," Rutledge said.

Schulze tied for the SoCon lead in batting with a .387 average and was named to the All-Southern Conference First Team. Miller and freshman relief pitcher and undeclared major Lex Rutledge were named to the All-Southern Conference Second Team, while Rutledge was also named to the All-Freshmen team. Rutledge finished the season with a stellar 1.71 ERA, a school record-tying 11 saves and was invited to participate in the 2010 USA Baseball Collegiate National Team Trials.

The team accomplished its goal of making it to the SoCon tournament and went 1-2. The Bulldogs were eliminated by No. 4 seed Elon.





{photos by: Evan Chandlee}



{photo by: Don Orr}



# Rocky Start, Strong Finish

*The softball team had a growing season under the leadership of a tight group of seniors.*

*by Steven Lyles*

The team went 19-31 (10-14 SoCon) in head coach Beanie Ketcham's final season at Samford. Ketcham resigned at the conclusion of the season.

The team struggled early in the season, dropping ten of its first 11 SoCon games. However, by rebounding from their early season struggles to win nine of their final 13 SoCon games, the Bulldogs proved they were a team that could compete in the SoCon.

"We went through a lot of adversity at the beginning of the season, but we came through toward the end and ended on a good note," freshman utility player and journalism and mass communication major Kayla Shaffer said.

"Over the past two years we've kind of had the goal of never giving up and persevering through hard times during our season, and I believe that's exactly what we did this year," senior infielder and exercise science major Katie England said. "Accomplishing this goal is very important to me as a person because you learn that perseverance pays off, and this can be taken away from softball and used in everyday life."

Season highlights included a trip to Tempe, Ariz., to compete in the Wilson/DeMarini Invitational, a series sweep of SoCon rival Western Carolina and a dramatic, walk-off victory over UNC Greensboro.

The season's final game against UNC Greensboro was the most exciting of the 2010 campaign. With the Bulldogs down 4-2 with two outs in the bottom of the seventh, junior shortstop and sociology major Amanda Jordan hit a walk-off three-run homerun to win the game 5-4. The trilling victory allowed the Bulldogs to end the 2010 season on a positive note and send Ketcham out in style.

"We [played] our best softball of the season in the last month," Ketcham said. "We won three of our last four conference series. Unfortunately, we just got off to a poor start and lost our first four series. We lost some close games in there, but close only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades."

Ketcham ended her career at Samford as the softball program's all-time winningest coach with 198 career victories.

At the conclusion of the season, redshirt freshman catcher and undeclared major Alex Adams was named to the All-SoCon second team and the All-Freshman team. Adams led Samford in batting average (.273), homeruns (7) and RBI (26).

Senior pitcher and sports medicine major Stephanie Royall was recognized for her dedication to strength and conditioning by being named to the National Strength and Conditioning Association All-American team. Royall concluded her career as Samford's all-time leader in shutouts (17) and ranks second all-time in wins (48) and strikeouts (462).

In May, athletic director Bob Roller announced the hiring of former University of Alabama All-American Stephanie VanBrakle as the program's new head coach. VanBrakle came to Samford following two seasons as the head coach at Birmingham-Southern College.







# Racing to Win

*Under the leadership of new assistant distance coach Lori Strand and the addition of six freshman runners, the men's and women's cross country teams looked different this season.*

*by Brittney Harrison*

Not only did their numbers expand but so did their dedication and talent.

After coming in second at their SoCon debut in 2008, missing first place by one point, the women's team was determined to take the SoCon championship title. The team faced high expectations after being picked to finish first in the conference in the preseason coaches' poll. On the men's side, the Bulldogs were forced to rebuild from the loss of three key senior runners on the 2008 squad.

Through heavy rain and extreme humidity the teams battled some harsh weather conditions throughout the season, even resulting in a canceled race. However, the Bulldogs were forced to persevere through the adversity.

The season started off well as the women took first and the men fifth at the Memphis Twilight Classic. After poor performances at Crimson Classic two weeks later, the team recognized they needed to "pick up the pace." As the season progressed, that's exactly what they did. From 5 a.m. workouts during the week to long runs on Saturday mornings, both teams steadily pushed themselves to the limit reaping respectable results.

With hopes high and more mileage on their shoes, they were prepared to redeem themselves at the Ole Miss Invitational. Unfortunately, the meet was called off due to inclement weather.

Although disappointed, the Bulldogs' eagerness remained and ultimately led the men to take second and the women to take first at the makeup meet at Spain Park. The women's team took another win at the Coach "O" with six girls in the top ten, and the men's team placed fourth in its race.

At the 2009 SoCon championships, the women were on the winning side of a one-point margin, as they defeated rival UT-Chattanooga. The championship was Samford's first in any sport during the university's two-year membership in the conference.

Juniors nursing major Hillary Neal and nutrition major Ina Ables placed fourth and fifth, respectively. Both were named to the All-SoCon team.

"We didn't really know how we did when we finished," Neal said. "Then we got down to the ceremony, and they told us we won. It's really exciting to work really hard this year and get it. It has been our goal all year."

"To win our first Southern Conference Championship, as well as Samford's first, in one fell swoop is really special. I could not be more proud," head coach Rod Tiffin said.

For his team's performance, Tiffin was named SoCon cross country coach of the year.

"To be named coach of the year is a great honor," Tiffin said. "The girls on the team always make me look good. This honor really belongs to assistant coach Lori Strand. She makes my job easy."

In the men's race, the Bulldogs ran to a tenth-place finish. Senior communication studies major Patrick Ollinger led the way with a 44th place finish.

"The men's side on the cross-country team lost some key seniors from last year, and our performance at conference showed that," team captain and junior biology major Scott Cope said. "The SoCon is always a competitive league for running, so every year is always a fight to perform well. We fully expect that coaches Lori Strand and Rod Tiffin will do whatever it takes to get high caliber runners into our program."

Two weeks later, the Bulldogs made their way to Tuscaloosa to compete in the NCAA South Regional Meet. Among some stiff competition the women took 15th and the men 25th.

In March, both teams were named All-Academic teams by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

"We always strive for our teams to be successful as students as well as athletes," Tiffin said. "It verifies that they are spending countless hours in the classroom as well as on the track and in the weight room."







# New Standard of Excellence

*The track and field teams rewrote the record books in 2010, as athletes set new school records in 22 events. by Dan Hall*

The return of the majority of 2009's key contributors combined with a strong freshman class and two highly-touted transfers produced one of the most talented teams in program history.

The indoor season began Jan. 22 at the Niswonger Invitational in Johnson City, Tenn., and concluded at the SoCon Indoor Championship in Clemson, S.C.

At Indoor, the men placed third, while the women placed fourth. The men scored 102.5 points during the meet, improving on their 2009 total by more than 50 points. Following his team's achievement, head coach Rod Tiffin was named SoCon Men's Co-Coach of the Year.

"The guys' team did a great job," Tiffin said. "We scored 48 points last year at conference and to come back and score 102 this year shows the strength of the recruiting class we had but also the determination and drive of the returners. They just went out there and did what was asked of them."

Senior biology major Cameron Bean and sophomore communication studies major Michael Seaman led the men in the meet. Bean took first place in the 3000-meter run (8:15) and 5,000-meter run (14:29). He was named Male Most Outstanding Track Performer for his efforts.

"It was a big honor to be recognized, especially as a distance runner because indoor track is normally more geared towards the sprinters," Bean said. "Winning that award meant more to me than winning the races. It gave a good closing to my indoor season."

Seaman placed first in pole vault with a SoCon record-setting jump of 16-07.5. Senior finance major Patrick Wells placed second.

Bean, Seaman and Wells were named to the All-SoCon team with senior finance major Kyle Kirby, senior engineering physics major Chas Keithan, sophomore sports administration major Donald Cooper and freshman undeclared major Bo Ackerson-Gilroy.

Senior exercise science major Morgan Tyler and junior nursing major Hillary Neal paced the women's team. Tyler won the 60-meter hurdles (8.69), and Neal took first place in the mile run (4:49). Neal also anchored the winning distance medley relay team.

Both athletes were named to the All-SoCon team and were joined by five of their teammates, sophomore sports administration major Mackenzie Wills, freshman journalism and mass communication major Chenelle Terry, senior biology major Jessica Van Ausdall, freshman international business major Ashley Bridenbaugh and freshman undeclared major Lauren D'Alessio.

Ten athletes set school records in individual events during the indoor season. These athletes included Bean (3000 meter run, 5000 meter run), Seaman (pole vault), Kirby (weight throw), Ackerson-Gilroy (heptathlon, high jump), Cooper (200-meter dash), sophomore sports administration major Chinedu Amah (triple jump), Neal (mile run), senior journalism major Ashley Dance (500-meter dash), junior and pharmacy major Jessica Lucas (weight throw) and sophomore nursing major Christian McGuire (300-meter dash). The men's 4x400 meter relay team also set a school record.

Bulldog athletes continued the school-record setting trend in March at the team's first outdoor meet, the Birmingham-Southern Invitational. Kirby won the hammer throw with a school record of 168-2 while sophomore political science major Thomas Oliver won the javelin with a school record of 207-10. The outdoor season concluded at the SoCon Outdoor Championship at Appalachian State.

At the Outdoor Championship, Bean, Wells and Keithan led the men's team to a third place finish. Bean won the 3000-meter steeplechase and took second in the 5000-meter run, while Wells claimed the pole vault championship for the second consecutive season. Keithan, a former distance runner, won the decathlon with 6355 points, both a Samford and SoCon record.

"I started distance running as a seventh grader and eventually got sick of it," Keithan said. "So, when Coach Tiffin came in, I told him I wanted to try something new, and eventually, I just got good enough that he let me do it full time. This was my last conference meet, so I just wanted to go out on a good note. I got a personal record in six of my 10 events, so everything really just came together for me."

Ackerson-Gilroy took second in the decathlon with 6314 points, the second highest total in SoCon history. Ten male athletes were named to the All-Southern Conference team for their performances: Wells, Bean, Keithan, Ackerson-Gilroy, Seaman, Kirby, Oliver, Amah, junior biology major Blaise Carie and freshman undeclared major Ryland Robbins.

In the women's competition, three Bulldogs earned individual championships to lead the team to a fourth place finish. Junior nursing major Hillary Neal took first place in the 3000-meter steeplechase, freshman journalism and mass communication major Chenelle Terry won the high jump and freshman chemistry major Laura Bedsole claimed first place in the pole vault. Neal also placed second in the 1500-meter run. All three athletes were named to the All-SoCon team. Junior fitness and health promotion major Mary Barron also earned All-SoCon honors with second in pole vault.

During the outdoor campaign, seven athletes set new school records: Kirby (hammer throw), Oliver (javelin), Bean (5000-meter run, steeplechase), Amah (triple jump), Seaman (pole vault), Keithan (decathlon) and Neal (800-meter run).

Five athletes qualified to compete in the NCAA East Regional meet. Seaman and Wells competed in the pole vault, Oliver in the javelin and Bean and Neal in the men's and women's steeplechase. Seaman placed fifth with a school record jump of 17-02.75 and became the first male athlete in school history to qualify for the NCAA Track and Field Championships. He placed 16th at the NCAA Championship meet.

Tiffin said Seaman's accomplishment set a new standard for Samford's emerging track and field program.

"It's a great accomplishment being the first male athlete at Samford to compete at the NCAA Championships," Tiffin said.

"Michael has broken the ice for our team, and this should allow more people to feel like they can qualify for this meet. We want to take our team to the next level of competition and to do that, we have to have more people at this meet over the next few years," Tiffin said. "The administration has been very supportive of our program. We're dedicated to having a great program, and that allows Samford to be behind it."



# Serving Aces

*The women's tennis team  
concluded its 2010 season at the  
Southern Conference tournament  
in Charleston, S.C., with a 4-3  
loss to the Furman Lady Paladins.  
by Cory Smith*

The Bulldogs finished the season with a record of 17-6 (9-1 SoCon). They were on a nine-match winning streak before the defeat. Furman avenged a regular-season loss to the Samford that snapped a 100-match conference home winning streak for the Paladins.

The girls and head coach David Vest agreed that Furman deserved a lot of credit for their victory. "Furman really played us smart and had learned from the loss we gave them in the regular season," junior economics and finance major Taylor Morgan said. "They had definitely figured out our game styles and used that to their advantage to pull out the close match."

Vest said it was a typical conference tournament match. "We didn't play as well as we had the last month, but it was a typical conference semi where anything goes," he said. "We lost in some spots we probably shouldn't have, but give Furman credit for making adjustments." The Bulldogs were disappointed with the result, but they could not overlook the success of the 2010 campaign. The team won nine of ten regular season conference matches, earned the historic win over Furman and knocked off nationally-ranked Tulane.

"As a whole, I think we had a spectacular season," Morgan said. "We all felt like we had a lot to prove after a tough season last year, and we made it our mission not only to win matches but to win them as decisively as we could. I think we proved to the other teams in the conference that though this is our second year, we are a serious competitor."

"We had a great season with monumental wins against a ranked Tulane team and ending Furman's regular-season winning streak and only one loss to Charleston in the conference," sophomore accounting major Lindsey Mallory said. "It was disappointing not to make it to the finals and

have a chance to beat Charleston and possibly make it to the NCAA tournament, but we can't overlook our very successful season."

Vest agreed. "This year was a bit like starting over with a lot of the girls coming back from injuries that sidelined them for the 2009 season," he said. "We played all year to a level we are capable of, and that was good to see."

At the conclusion of the regular season Vest was named SoCon co-coach of the year. Morgan earned All-SoCon first team honors. She finished the season with a 6-4 record at the No. 1 singles position. Morgan was also named to the All-SoCon first team in doubles play along with doubles partner, Mallory. The duo produced a 6-2 record during conference matches.

Mallory earned a spot on the All-SoCon second team in singles play. She boasted a 9-0 conference mark and 15-5 overall record at the No. 6 singles position. The doubles tandem of junior management and marketing major Rebecca Kirven and junior accounting major Andrie Meiring garnered All-SoCon second team honors for their 9-1 conference record and 17-3 overall record in doubles play.

The team lost one senior, marketing major Stephanie Parkison. Vest said Parkison brought a lot to the team. "Steph was fiery on the court, which is what you want," he said. "She was very verbal on court and did the little intangible things that come with attitude and experience that helped the team."

However, the Dogs and Coach Vest said they looked forward to the 2011 season with five of the top six players returning. "We had a good group of freshmen and sophomores that would be playing anywhere else that just didn't crack the lineup, but they will be playing next year," Vest said. "It was good to get them another year of practice, so there is no letdown expected next year. We should be better."



{photos by: Don Orr}



Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Creek Life Competition Academics





{photos by: Shannon Dille}





# Growing Pains

*The men's tennis team endured a challenging 2010 season.*  
*by Dan Hall*

A young starting lineup made up of mostly freshmen and sophomores and without any seniors struggled to compete in the competitive Southern Conference. The team finished with a record of 11-12 (3-7 SoCon) and ranked ninth in the final conference standings.

"The spring 2010 season was both rewarding and disappointing," head coach Kemper Baker said. "I felt as though our young, inexperienced squad improved tremendously over the course of the year and handled adversity quite well. I did expect a higher conference finish than we had, which was largely due to some extremely close matches which eluded us. I am, however, very proud of this group of guys and excited to see what they can accomplish in the future.

The Bulldogs opened the season strongly by winning eight of their first ten matches. Key wins during the hot streak included a 6-1 win over UNO and close 4-3 wins over Jacksonville State and Belmont.

"Our biggest highlight was the start of our season," junior finance major Carl Abalos said. "In our first 10 matches we went 8-2. It really set the tone for the entire season and it gave us a lot of confidence for not only this year, but for the next few seasons."

Samford's success waned when the conference season began and the competition increased, as the team dropped 10 of its final 13 matches. Despite their struggles, the Bulldogs picked up three conference wins against Wofford, Davidson and The Citadel. Samford edged both Wofford and Davidson by a 4-3 margin and dominated The Citadel by a score of 6-1.

In the match against The Citadel, Samford received singles victories from freshman Zac Dunke, junior finance majors Oliver Reynolds and Carl Abalos, sophomore communication studies major Michael Browder and junior team captain and biology major Adam Witcher. The Bulldogs also swept the doubles point in the match.

"The most challenging aspect of playing such a young lineup in college tennis is preparing them for the mental and emotional toll that this sport takes on you and the momentum swings that this type of competition presents," Baker said. "This team responded well to those challenges and came out on top in quite a few difficult situations. I am very proud of their effort and determination."

At the end of the season, Dunkle and sophomore communication studies major Carson Kadi were named to the All-Southern Conference Second Team, while Dunkle was also named to the All-Freshman Team.

With no departing players from the 2010 team, the Bulldogs look primed for success in the future.

"We will have everybody back next year," Witcher said. "While we came up short of making the conference tournament this year, I feel like we learned a lot about ourselves as a team and made progress that we can build on next year."



*The men's and women's golf teams entered the 2009-2010 season with high expectations.*  
*by Dan Hall and Steven Lyles*

After finishing toward the bottom of the SoCon standings last season, both teams looked to improve their rankings in their second year in the conference. While the women were able to establish themselves among the SoCon's best, the men focused on helping a freshmen-laden team adjust to Division I golf.

The men's team was young, with four freshmen playing in the starting five. Despite its youth, the group of young men set a foundation for years to come.

During the spring season, the men placed eighth at the Wexford Plantation Intercollegiate, tied for first at the Samford Invitational, thirteenth at the Furman Intercollegiate and ninth at the Wofford Invitational.

The team was especially proud of its first place tie with Vanderbilt at the Samford Invitational. The Bulldogs entered the final day of the tournament in sixth place and trailed the first place Commodores by 20 strokes. However, the outstanding play of freshmen undeclared majors Casey O'Toole and Bill Nabors allowed Samford to cut the large deficit and force a playoff with Vanderbilt. The teams matched each others' scores through three playoff holes, and the coaches agreed to end the tournament in a tie. Vanderbilt was ranked 33rd in the nation entering the tournament. O'Toole won the tournament's individual title by seven strokes. He was named SoCon golfer of the week for his performance.

"One of our main goals this year was to win a tournament, and it was our own invitational that we won so that made it that much more special," O'Toole said.

"This was a great tournament for our guys and they really worked hard to finish as well as they did," head coach Woodie Eubanks said.

The Bulldogs did not experience similar success at the SoCon Championship, where they placed eleventh of eleven teams. Nabors paced the team and finished 26th overall in individual standings.

Despite disappointing results at the conference championship, the future looked bright for the program. O'Toole won the male rookie of the year award at the Samspys, and all five starters will return for the 2010-2011 season.

"We had a young team and feel like we have a lot of room for growth," freshman business major Gabe Hyde said.

"Our freshmen gained some valuable experience, and I'm extremely optimistic about the future of the program," said coach Eubanks.

Led by senior trio of finance and economics major Katelyn Stanier, marketing major Heather Arnold and journalism and mass communications major Sara Hunt and talented sophomore and Spanish major Sarah Butts, the women's team was much improved in 2010.

In the spring season, the team placed third at the Jacksonville University Classic, fourth at the USA Lady Jaguar Invitational, second at the Samford Intercollegiate and ninth at the ECU Spring Invitational. At the SoCon championship, the team improved on last season's eighth-place finish to place fourth. The Bulldogs entered the final day of play in seventh place, but a final round resurgence pushed them into fourth. Butts led the team and finished tied for sixth in the individual standings.

"With three graduating seniors, ending on a good note and posting a solid number was very important. We had just as much talent last year, but the difference was a new found sense of drive," Stanier said. "We left conference last year with a bad taste in our mouths and knew we had something to prove when returning to Moss Creek in 2010." Stanier finished nineteenth and was named to the All-SoCon team. The all-conference honor was the third of her four-year career. She was named to the All-SoCon team in 2009 and the All-Ohio Valley Conference team in 2007.

"Three years of all-conference honors is very special to me. Particularly in the SoCon where competition is tight, it's nice to be in good company with some of the best players in the nation," Stanier said.

Eubanks said he was proud of his team's performance against stiff competition. "The Southern Conference is strong, especially on the women's side," Eubanks said. "It's one of the strongest conferences for women's division one golf in the nation."

Hunt said a high level of team unity and morale led to the Bulldogs' success in 2010. "We believed in ourselves and what we could do on the golf course," Hunt said. "Once we got the freshmen comfortable with playing on the collegiate stage, we just kept pushing each other to keep working hard, to keep fighting through every round of golf but most importantly, to believe in ourselves and the team."



{photos by: Jordan Jarvis Hughes}



Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Greek Life Competition Academics



# Leading the Crowd

*Adorned in "Samford red" lipstick and crisp white bows, the Samford cheerleaders were hard at work since April 2009 preparing for the 2009-2010 football and basketball seasons.*  
*by Allison Hubbard*

Comprised of two seniors, three juniors, three sophomores and six freshmen, the squad was led by co-captains senior athletic training major Amanda Walker and junior biology major Katelyn Rouch.

After April tryouts, the squad began preparing for football season in May. They attended one of Universal Cheer Association's college camps at the University of Alabama in July, where they competed against other all-girl teams from schools like Memphis, Mississippi State and Florida State. At camp, the girls won several awards for their performances.

"It was really exciting having the opportunity to observe and learn from big SEC schools like Alabama, LSU and Ole Miss," Walker said. "We had a lot of fun and we learned a lot of new things that we were able to bring home for our games. We also got to be really confident in each other and in our ability as a squad."

Like other athletic teams, the cheerleaders moved in early to get some extra practice before classes started. Once the squad was moved in, they began their regular practice schedule—two to three-hour practices on Monday and Wednesday evenings and workouts at 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. "Cheerleading requires a lot of dedication, and we were always working hard to improve ourselves as a squad," junior sociology major Alix Moore said.

Football game days were an all-day event for the cheerleaders. They began the days' festivities at their tailgate tent and warming up for the game. The girls then teamed up with the Bulldog dancers, Spike the mascot and the Samford band to perform a pre-game pep rally. Following the pep rally, the squad led the way to the stadium for the game.

"This is the second year that we have tailgated at Talbird circle," Walker said. "We love the start of the tradition. Our parents have been so supportive of us and they provide us with lunch before the games to get us ready."

This year, the girls' goal was to increase school spirit, crowd involvement and the overall atmosphere at games. "We really worked on using signs and doing more things to get the crowd involved," Walker said. "We have really made an effort to increase crowd participation, and we have worked with the band to do more things that the crowd can do with us."

Football season had its frustrations for the cheerleaders, though. Budget cuts limited the opportunities to travel to away games, and the girls had no coach after the first home game. However, 2008 graduate and former cheerleader Lauren Hughston came in and continued to build the program.

"Lauren did a great job this year," freshman nursing major Julie Beasley said. "It was devastating to lose a coach in the middle of the season, and we thought it was going to really hurt our program, but Lauren came in and made us even better, especially because she knows Samford athletics and is so passionate about the school."

The cheerleaders were also present at all the men's and women's home basketball games. They accompanied the teams to the SoCon tournament in Charlotte, N.C., where the women took second place and a bid to the WNIT. The girls cheered at the women's WNIT first round victory over Ole Miss.



{photo by: Evan Chandlee}



{photo by: Lauren Sharpe}



{photo by: Evan Chandlee}

Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Greek Life Competition Academics



# Samspy's

*Samford student athlete  
awards and recognitions.*

Male Athletes For Athletes: Thomas Gray and Cory Smith, Football

Female Athletes For Athletes: Katie Luckman, Volleyball

Team Athletes For Athletes: Women's Tennis

Male Academic Team of the Year: Cross Country

Female Academic Team of the Year: Golf

Male Rookie of the Year: Casey O'Toole, Gold

Female Rookie of the Year: Allie Bettinger, Volleyball

Comeback Athlete of the Year: Rebecca Kirven, Tennis

Breakthrough Athlete of the Year: Alyssa Whitehead, Soccer

Jim Griffin Award: Jeremy Cox, Golf

Best Blooper: Lindsey Mallory, Women's Tennis

Best Championship Performance: Women's Cross Country

Best Finish: David Schulze, Baseball versus Alabama

Best Upset: Women's Tennis over Furman

Play of the Year: Savannah Hill, Women's Basketball versus Ole Miss

Most Outstanding Team: Women's Cross Country

Support Staff of the Year: Mike Grace

Assistant Coach of the Year: Lori Strand, Cross Country

Coach of the Year: Mike Morris, Women's Basketball

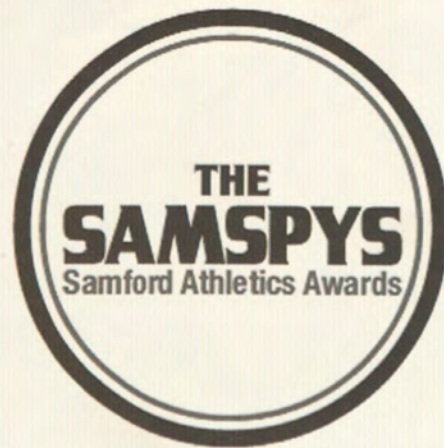
Best Male Athlete: Bryce Smith, Football

Best Female Athlete: Amber Cress, Soccer

Mr. Bulldog: Jonathan Lowery, Football

Miss Bulldog: Katie Luckman, Volleyball











# Samford avoids Sophomore Slump in SoCon

*When the 2009-2010 athletic campaign began in August, Samford coaches and athletes noticed a new addition to every uniform, a big target on the back. by Cory Smith*

This was due to the Bulldogs' overwhelming success in their first season in the SoCon. The target grew throughout the season, as the Bulldogs improved upon the previous year's success in nearly every sport.

The highlight of the year, athletic director Bob Roller said, was the success of the women's sports program, as Samford claimed its first Germann Cup. The Germann Cup is awarded to the SoCon school that ends the year with the most outstanding overall performance by its women's athletic program.

"Without question, the highlight athletically for 2009-2010 was the incredible success of the Samford women's programs. Eight of our nine women's sports finished between first and fourth place in the 12-team league. That is quite a mark of excellence," Roller said.

The year started with a bang as the women's cross country captured the first SoCon championship in school history. Head coach Rod Tiffin was named SoCon cross country coach of the year. The women's volleyball team captured its second-straight North Division crown within the SoCon. Women's soccer had the best win percentage in school history this season with a 12-1-5 record that included a tie to nationally-ranked Auburn and a 3-0 win over in-state rival Alabama. All three fall sports placed multiple athletes on their respective all-conference teams.

Samford struggled in the men's fall sports as the football team finished with a disappointing 5-6 record that included a near miss with a 28-24 loss at Central Florida and multiple close finishes that did not go the Bulldogs' way. The men's cross country team endured a tough 2009 season that included a 2nd place finish at the Ole Miss Invitational and a 4th place finish at the Troy Invitational. The team placed 10th at the SoCon championship.

The men's basketball team overcame the tragic death of senior forward Jim Griffin and the health problems of head coach Jimmy Tillette during the season to post an 11-20 record.

The women's basketball was one of the highlights of this athletic season. The team enjoyed its most successful season in school history, which included the team's first postseason appearance, as the Bulldogs hosted and defeated SEC power Ole Miss in a thrilling WNIT first round matchup.

The women's tennis team also enjoyed a record-breaking year. The team finished the season with a 17-6 record, including a 9-1 SoCon record. The season included a win over nationally-ranked Tulane and a decisive 6-1 victory over Furman to snap the Paladins' 100-match SoCon home winning streak.

An extremely young men's tennis team finished at 11-12 and finished ninth in the conference.

The track and field program was another bright spot for Samford. Tiffin also garnered SoCon co-coach of the year for indoor track after leading the men's team to a third place finish at the SoCon indoor championship. The women placed fourth at the meet. The teams repeated their stellar performances at the SoCon outdoor championship with third and fourth place finishes by the men and women, respectively. Bulldog athletes set several school records throughout the indoor and outdoor seasons and captured multiple individual conference championships. Sophomore pole vaulter and communication studies major [HYPERLINK "http://samfordsports.cstv.com/sports/c-track/mtt/seaman\\_michael00.html"](http://samfordsports.cstv.com/sports/c-track/mtt/seaman_michael00.html) Michael Seaman qualified for the NCAA championship in Eugene, Ore., after placing fifth at the Eastern Division of the NCAA first round in Greensboro, N.C.

The women's golf team finished the year strong at the SoCon championship with a fourth-place finish, while a young men's golf team placed 11th. Both teams have bright outlooks on the 2011 season.

The softball team endured a season of extremely tough competition and the announced resignation of head coach Beanie Ketcham. The team finished with a 19-30 record (10-14 SoCon). After a rough 2009 season, the baseball team returned to its winning ways and finished with a record of 31-25 (17-12 SoCon). After a successful run through SoCon play, the team played in its first SoCon tournament as the No. 5 seed. Other 2010 highlights included series sweeps of in-state rivals Alabama and UAB and a walk-off SoCon home victory over first-place Citadel.

After all the program's success, Roller said he is not just proud of on the on-field accomplishments, but also those off the field. "On the academic side, we had 11 of our 17 NCAA Division I sports earn a perfect score of 1000 in the NCAA academic progress report, while 112 student athletes earned Dean's List recognition. It's such a great feeling to have students succeed in all areas."

Despite all of the athletic success in 2009-2010, the year will forever be remembered for the passing of well known and beloved basketball player Jim Griffin. The senior forward from Chicago, Ill., died in his sleep on Sept. 8, 2009. "The year certainly was marred by the tragic death of Jim Griffin," Roller said. "The entire campus has grieved his loss, but if there ever was a young man who embodied spirit and hard work, it was Jimbo. We all miss him but remember him."

Athletically, 2009-2010 will be remembered as a year of both success and tragedy, but it will also be remembered as the year when Samford took its place among the top programs in the prestigious Southern Conference.



# B Behind the Bench

*While the majority of students who attended athletic events observed the games from student sections in the bleachers, the student athletic trainers got up close and personal with the athletes on the field.*

*by Katie Willis*

These students served as the “team behind the team” at practices and competitions for each athletic team throughout the year.

Student trainers were assigned to a different athletic team each semester, and they were responsible for assisting the team’s professional athletic trainer in keeping the athletes healthy during the season. Some of their responsibilities included assessing injuries, wrapping ankles, filling water coolers, icing the players after practice and doing therapy.

Student trainers spent 15-25 hours each week working with the athletes and were not paid for their efforts. Despite their lack of financial compensation, student trainers gained valuable work experience and built strong relationships through their involvement with the program.

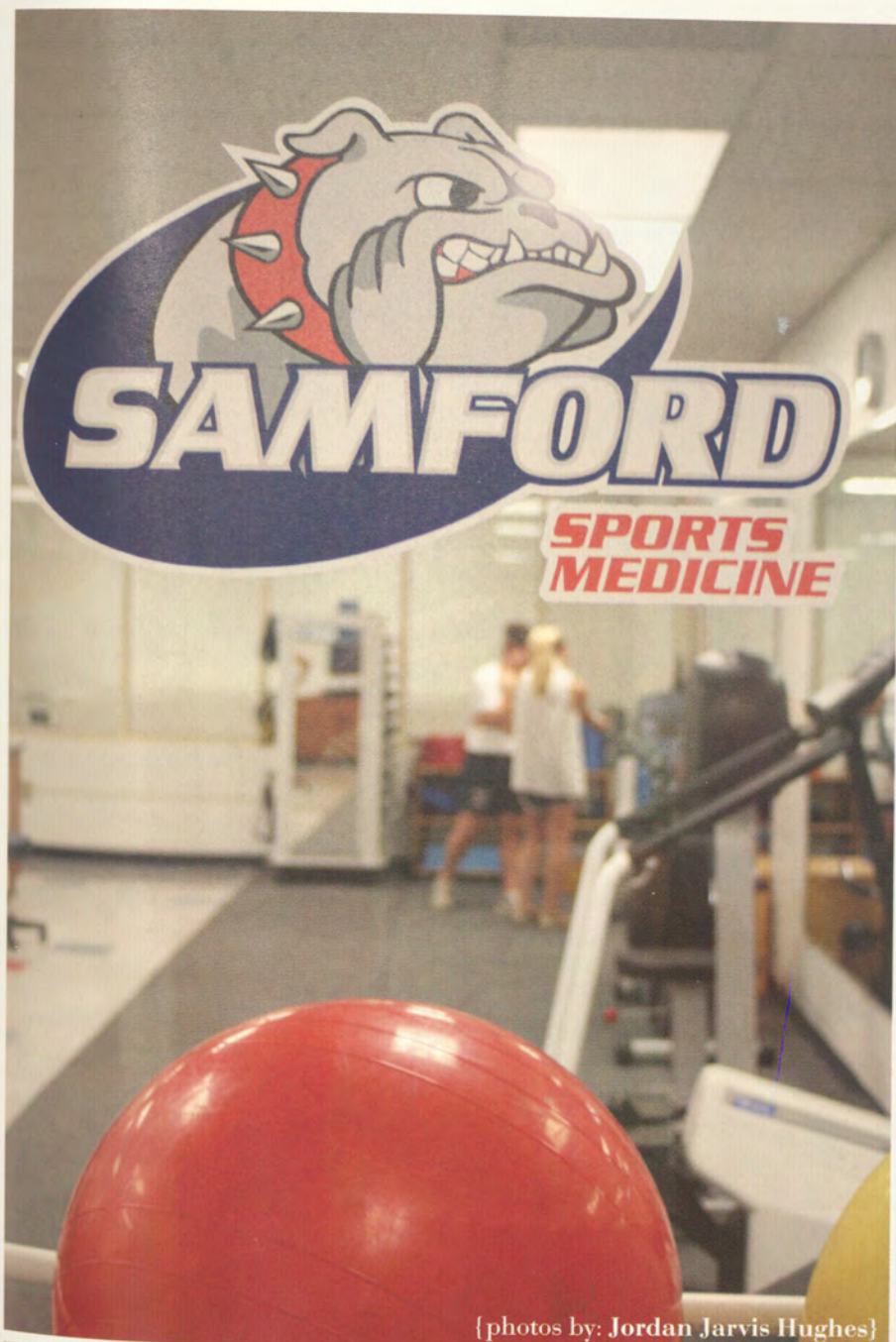
“I absolutely love getting to know all of the players, and I love that I am getting the clinical aspect of the program straight out of my classes,” junior major Laura Sarrett said.

Freshman major Emily Westray said she was unsure she wanted to pursue athletic training when she entered the program. However, the daily hands-on experience she received in her first semester in the program convinced her to continue the path to become a certified athletic trainer.

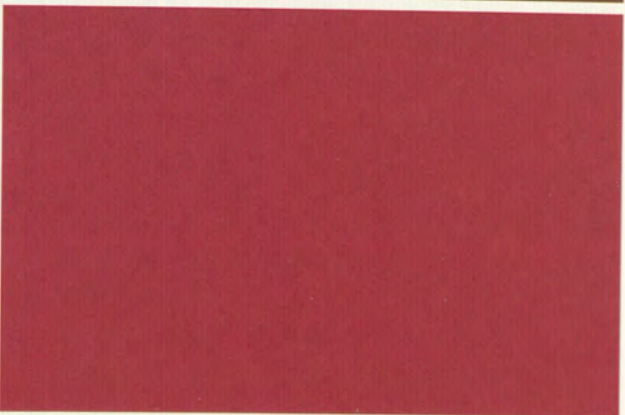
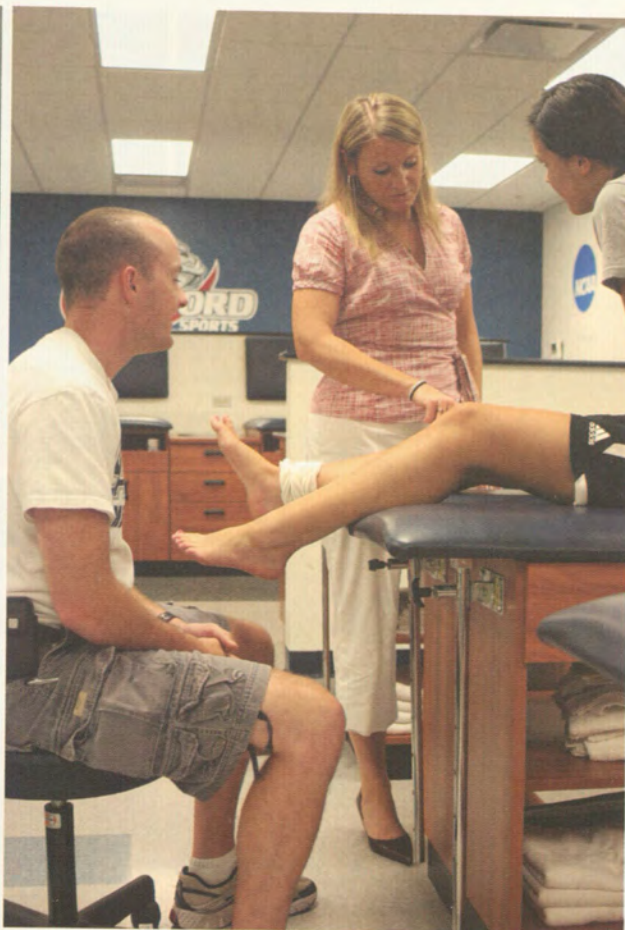
“My favorite part of it all is bonding and making relationships with the athletes, so in case of certain situations, they will trust my judgment,” Westray said. “Being an ATC is going to require many hours of hard work and dedication, but I am ready for it.”

They wore collared shirts instead of jerseys and lifted water coolers instead of dumbbells, but these unsung heroes played a large part in the success of Samford athletics.





{photos by: Jordan Jarvis Hughes}





# For the Love of The Game

*Samford supported five club sports teams in the 2009-2010 year: men's soccer, men's and women's lacrosse and men's and women's ultimate frisbee.*

*by Stephen Rhea*

The men's soccer team, captained by senior accounting major Michael Shorrosh, continued its strength from last year by bringing in a few new faces and changing its playing venues. New coach and local businessman Mateo Peral came in this year to help guide the team and lead practices more effectively. He entered the team into a Birmingham city league, which gave the team one game per week. Shorrosh said this gave the team a lot of experience and helped the team save money on travel expenses.

Men's lacrosse saw significant growth in its second year at Samford. Team captain and senior journalism and mass communications major Parker Branch said he loved watching new players join the team. "We had all of our players return, along with new students who were eager to learn the sport and get involved with the team," Branch said. "We were able to focus more on playing the game [than] endorsing it."

Women's lacrosse experienced its first official season, and team captain and sophomore secondary education major Jordyn Elrod said she was extremely optimistic about the team's experience. Ending with a 2-4 record, Elrod said she saw room for growth and minor tweaks to the season's progress. The team competed against schools such as Auburn and Rhodes College. "Every school we played complimented us with their shock at our first-year status," Elrod said.

The team improved greatly over the season, as evidenced by the two games against Vanderbilt. The first time the teams played was preseason, and Samford lost 13-4. However, the second time was much closer, with Vanderbilt nudging a one point overtime win. Elrod said she looked forward to the next year as the team could make its presence more known on campus.

The men's ultimate frisbee team had significant build-up this season as captains senior accounting major Justin Warden and senior computer science major Stephen Rhea placed a major focus on recruitment and team chemistry. With more than half the team being new, practices were key to the team's development. Warden credited practice and the team's first tournament at Georgia State University as key events in the season. "[It] was a great reward for the work we [had] done so far, and helped us gain some confidence in our team," Warden said.

The team played in one more tournament at Talladega Superspeedway before entering into USA Ultimate's college series in Tuscaloosa. "We hung with the most competitive teams in our section," Warden said. Warden and Rhea said they felt confident in the team's progress after finishing the season 11-11.

The women's ultimate frisbee team returned after a year-long break with recruitment on the mind. Captains senior math education major Amanda McPhail and senior art major Becca Skinner led the team to two tournaments this season. The first tournament at Ole Miss helped the team see some competition in the Southeast. "Both of the other teams were very experienced, and they really encouraged us to keep working hard," McPhail said.

Their second tournament at Talladega Superspeedway gave the team more experience and encouragement. The team ended the season winless, but McPhail and Skinner said they were encouraged by this season's experience and knew the team would grow and improve. Each club sport appreciated Samford for support and the opportunity to play simply for the love of the game.





{photo by: Sam Douglas}





# Healthy Competition

*Intramurals could cause students to skip meals and procrastinate on assignments and could yield either elation or dread, depending on the outcome.*

*by Jordan Cole*

Students participated in pregame rituals and postgame celebrations all for the sake of sport. Intramurals were and had been an integral part of the college experience at Samford, and the 2009-2010 year was no different. With thirteen sports from tennis to dodgeball, options were available for just about everyone, regardless of athletic prowess.

Every year the school year is jump-started by the most popular intramural sport, flag football. A-league, B-league and co-rec teams scrambled to put together what they hoped would be winning rosters soon after the first wave of classes began in the fall. Men's B-league champions, The Landlords, overcame a slow start by catching fire just in time for the playoffs. The team clinched the championship victory with a fourth down desperation touchdown pass.

"There is nothing like winning an intramural championship, especially when you get to do it with your best friends," Landlords quarterback and junior marketing major Marshall Pollard said. "After a questionable safety call in the first half, I will never forget driving down the field in the fourth quarter, overcoming a one point deficit to win the coveted T-shirt. We will always remember the night when we 'owned the house.'"

Other fall sports included tennis, volleyball, ultimate frisbee, billiards and the newly added bowling league.

Incoming freshmen were highly encouraged to sign up for intramurals with the students on their residence halls as a way to meet new friends. However, it sometimes turned into a dynasty that played with religious fervor, adopting a "as intramurals goes, so goes my Samford career" outlook. This idea was personified by Second East, a team of sophomores who lived together as freshman. This intramural juggernaut rolled through the ultimate Frisbee league, claiming the men's league title and the co-rec crown.

Another notable team of seniors known as 3 East, which also played together since the players were freshmen, finished second in the A-League flag football standings and snagged the fall dodgeball tournament championship. "Although we went our separate ways after living on the same hall freshman year, intramurals served as the glue that kept us together," senior history and social science education major David Presley said.

Upon returning from Christmas break, students shed the holiday poundage once basketball season tipped off. It was not an unnatural sight to behold when 100-200 people fill Bashinsky Fieldhouse or Pete Hanna Center to watch a playoff or championship basketball game. Sigma Nu won the A-league championship this season.

"We didn't take it too serious, but we were still competitive. We were just excited we won and had fun doing it at the same time," senior political science major and Sigma Nu brother Jordan Puryear said.

March Madness was usually a reference to the NCAA men's basketball tournament, but at Samford it meant that spring dodgeball season was in full swing. In an effort to suppress the overwhelming excitement on behalf of the student body, campus recreation holds a dodgeball tournament in the fall, but the real deal began in the spring.

This year's champs, the Mighty Whities, used their all-white uniforms as a means of intimidation during the season.

"I started the Mighty Whities three years ago, and the team we beat this year won the championship the first two years," junior english major and Mighty Whities team captain Will Phillips said. "It was all the more satisfying to win the championship by defeating the two-time champs who had eliminated us from the tournament two years in a row. Winning the championship game in such dramatic fashion was the single greatest moment of my life, but the real winner was Samford intramural sports."

While Samford had many aspects that made it a wonderful place to be, intramurals was just another very important piece of that puzzle.



{photo by: Don Orr}



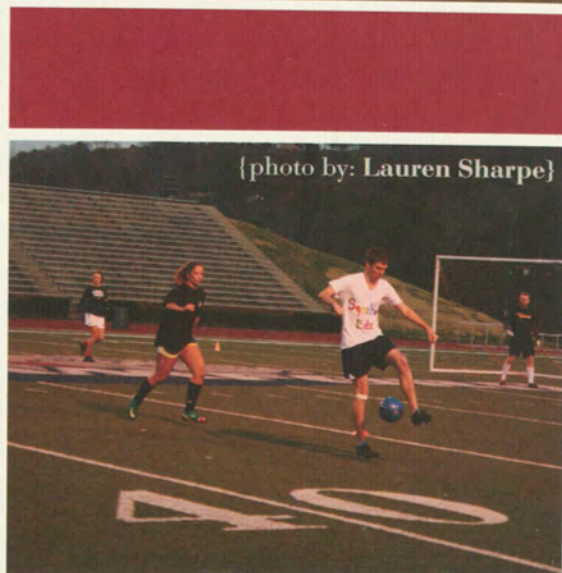
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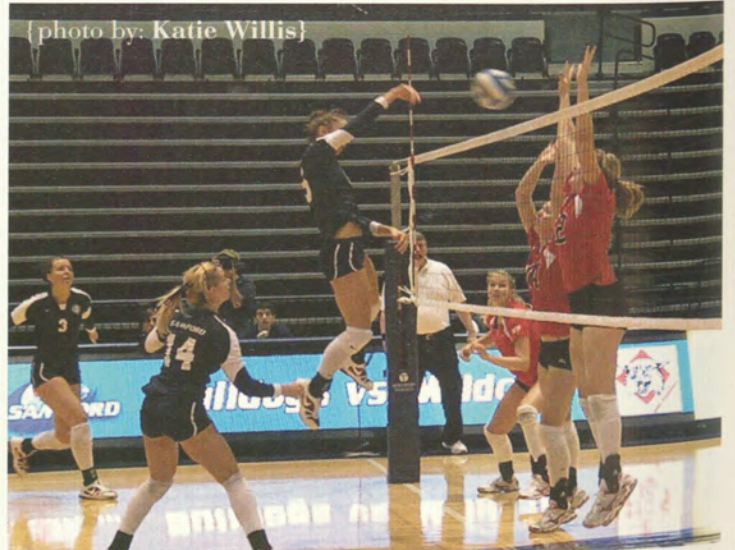
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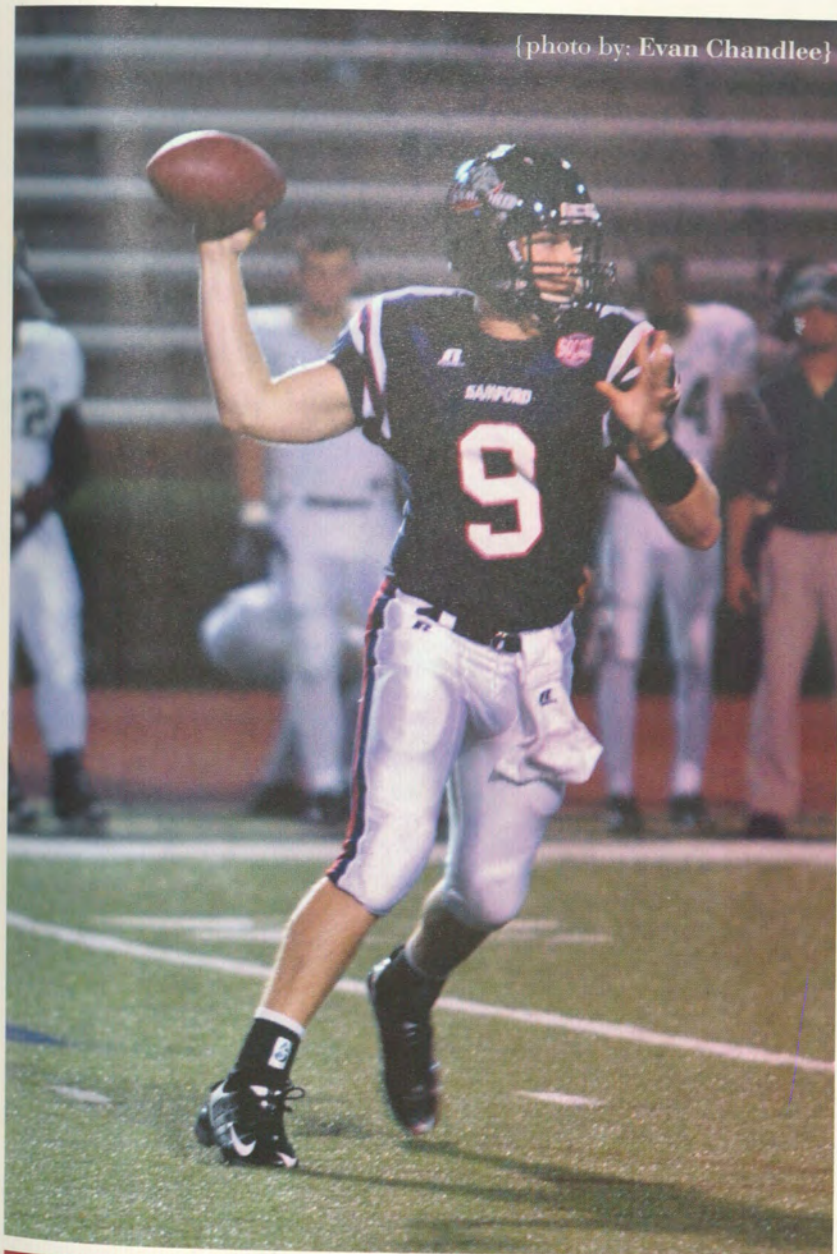
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{photo by: Evan Chandlee}



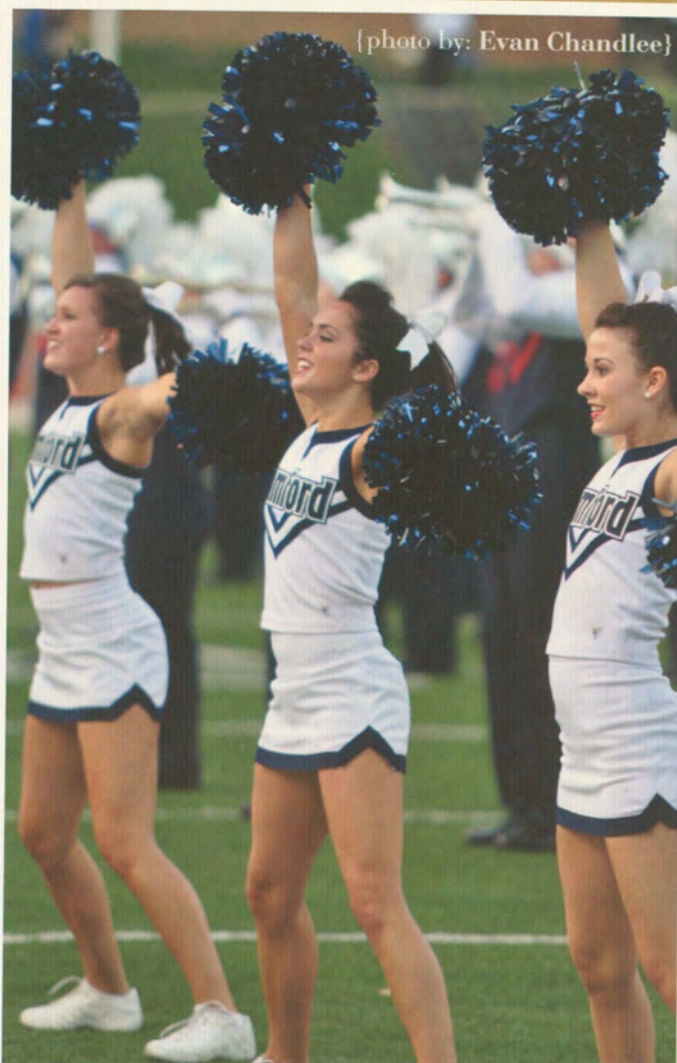




{photo by: Evan Chandlee}



{photo by: Don Orr}



{photo by: Evan Chandlee}



{photo by: Don Orr}



# Academics

*The school year was filled with  
highlights and great accomplishments  
in each department.*





{ photos by: Malynda Mesler }

Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Greek Life Competition Academics





"Hands down, **Dr. Clapp's CP 101 class for Focus Group 3**. 'Oh look, there's a bee in the room...Now open the window, and shoo it out of the class...We don't need a bee in the classroom...' It was hilarious." -Freshman international relations major Andrew Mays

"My favorite class was **Intro to Psychology** because it taught me to think outside the box and how to analyze how things really work." -Freshman undeclared major David Brewbaker

"I loved **CA the fall of my freshman year**. I loved tutoring elementary-aged kids and listening to hilarious speeches." -Sophomore communication studies major Jill McElroy

"My favorite hands down has been **Communication Arts** because I love public speaking and the topics we got to focus on were really interesting." -Junior political science major Daniel Lee

"**Christian Ethics by Dr. Sansom**. The class challenged me to think ethically in the context of being a Christian. I now understand the gravity of being consistent with my Christian beliefs. I think every student at Samford should be required to take a Dr. Sansom class." -Junior accounting major Jared Salmon

"Out of all the great classes I've taken at Samford, **Dr. Clemmensen's Mass Media Ethics class stands out as my favorite**. Mass Media Ethics was challenging, demanding, time-consuming and so worth taking. Learning about the ethical shortcomings of the media industry renewed my passion for objective journalism and inspired me to be the best reporter I can be, no matter who I'm writing for. Mass Media Ethics also gave me a chance to look at my personal ethics: what I view as right and wrong in the world of journalism and how far I'm willing to go to get a story." -Junior journalism and mass communications major Lauren Womack

"My favorite class was **Intro to American Politics with Dr. Westmoreland**. I loved how his curriculum included a variety of simulations and real-life application through exercises and also city-wide political opportunities for class credit. His class made me want to wake up for the 8 a.m. beginning time." -Sophomore journalism and mass communications and political science major Tori Bragg





"It's hard to narrow it down to one class, but I'd have to say **Plant Taxonomy with Dr. Davenport**. He's a great professor and makes learning enjoyable, like when he goes to get ice cream with you after class." -Senior biology major William Barrett

"My favorite classes at Samford would have to be **Marriage and Family taught by Dr. Chandler** and **Global Geography taught by Dr. Speights-Binet**. Both of these women are exceptional teachers and encourage the class to learn and do their best." -Sophomore family studies major Rachel Harden

"My favorite class so far has been **anatomy because it has really taught me how to study**. It pushed me to the next level academically, and I feel like it has made me actually learn in my other classes." -Freshman sports medicine major Meredith Hicks

"**Issues in the Educational Culture**. Getting to know Dr. Hoaglund and Dr. Duncan was such a gift and getting out into a middle school classroom for the first time was very rewarding." -Sophomore education major Kelsey Tichenor

"My favorite class was **Western Intellectual Tradition 2: Christianity from Antiquity to the Renaissance** because it introduced me to Augustine and Aquinas and taught me that one can be both a deep thinker and a person of sincere faith. Plus, Dr. Metress is one of the best teachers on campus and his leadership in our discussions prompted me to think of things in ways I never would have before. He has a great habit of always arguing against the prevailing attitude in a class and forcing his students to look at a problem from all sides before drawing a conclusion." -Junior religion major Aaron Carr

"My favorite class was **BP because Matt Kerlin is an awesome teacher**, and it made me think about the Bible in new ways that deepened my faith. I'd never done an academic study of the Bible or Christianity, and it turned out there was a lot of stuff I didn't know and still don't know, but it's awesome to see the ways God uses these issues to show himself even more." -Junior German major Adam Nichols

"I have had many classes that I have really enjoyed. **I think my favorite was ballet**. I had always wanted to take ballet, but sports always interfered. I loved being able to try something completely different." -Sophomore pre-business major Savannah Forster



"So far in my college career, the class that has influenced me the most and caused great joy for me has been **Social Psychology with professor Hugh Floyd**. My thought process has changed and become inclusive of several different concepts and aspects in life. The work is not extremely overbearing, but it is very thought provoking and the discussions that follow each assignment provides several different perspectives, causing even more learning. The humor that professor Floyd brings to the class just strengthens the course and makes it appealing to anyone." -Sophomore sociology major Jessica Harden

"Most definitely **Language and Culture with Dr. Brammer**. She makes us challenge our own views about what is normal and then consider an entire new realm of what is 'normal' for other people." -Sophomore communication studies major Emily Arthur

"My favorite class has been **Biblical Perspectives with Dr. Patrick**. It was really interesting and, coming from a public high school, I never got to learn about Bible history. I learned so many great things that are helpful in backing up my faith." -Sophomore nursing major Kelly Polo



{photos by: Rebecca Tischler}





# Expanding Horizons

*Samford offered its students life-altering and amazing experiences through its multiple study abroad programs.*

*by Ashlie Williams*

Students could earn class credit while exploring the world in places ranging from intellectually intriguing European countries to the sunny destinations of the Caribbean.

Samford's Daniel House in London was a favorite location for many students. The London program offered general education classes such as music and theater appreciation and some major-specific classes in religion, English, family studies, psychology and business. Many students took advantage of these classes in London for an entire semester.

Other students opted for the summer in Spain and the opportunity to finish all 16 language credits in only nine weeks. Samford also offered courses abroad during Janterm, which were typically two weeks long.

Junior English major Katherine Harrell spent the spring 2009 semester in London studying international capitalism. She highly recommended that students do the same and get out of their comfort zones. "Meet new people, eat new things, see the world from another vantage point," Harrell said. Of her experience in London, she fondly remembered their kind, old next-door neighbor, Roger, who led her and other students around London and took them to countless concerts and events. "Roger also imparted wisdom to us, like always looking for the purpose in any meeting or situation and to never believe in coincidence," Harrell said. Her words of advice to future travelers, "Always be sure you have your keys with you."

Sophomore international relations major Mary Evelyn Todd spent Janterm 2010 in Greece studying the crucible of civilization. "Greece has a natural beauty, and it is amazing how much we can learn from what the ancient Greeks left behind," Todd said.

Her class traveled around the mainland and islands in Greece including Thessalonica, Philippi, Berea, Meteora, Delphi, Olympia, Nafplion, Corinth, Crete, Aegina and Athens from Jan. 4 to Jan. 22.

"One of the major themes of the trip was the correlation between Samford, Jerusalem and Athens," she said. "We saw the locations where the creation of government, democracy, academics, architecture, literature, art and the spread of Christianity to Europe began, all of which continue to have an effect on Samford today."

Freshman undeclared major Ryland Robbins traveled to the tiny island of Saba in the Caribbean to study scientific methods with Jennifer Rahn, assistant professor of geography. Robbins said traveling abroad was the only way to have an incredible experience while learning a significant amount as well.

Sophomore education major Lily Portlock also experienced the wonder of Saba and said the island offered memories that will last a lifetime. "It was such an amazing experience to breathe and explore underwater," Portlock said. "I loved seeing the creatures, and it was so peaceful. I can't wait to do it again."

"The students participated in my ongoing coastal erosion research on the island and completed the Professional Association of Diving Instructors National Geographic certification," Rahn said. "They also learned how to scuba dive on coral reefs and received three scuba certifications including Open Water, Advanced Open Water and National Geographic."

Rahn said her class was not for the "faint of heart." Students needed to be physically fit and ready to scuba dive for more than half of the 14-day trip.

The students and Rahn agreed that nothing was better than being in shorts and a T-shirt during the coldest month of the year. While students back on campus were piling on layer after warm layer, Rahn and her students were relaxing under the sun in Saba's 80-degree weather.

Sophomore pre-medicine and Spanish major Sarah Butts took Spanish 351 in Costa Rica during Janterm. "In three weeks we were able to immerse ourselves in the Tico culture through staying with a wonderful host family, taking laid back, conversational classes with Costa Rican professors on a gorgeous mountainside campus and exploring the many natural wonders that Costa Rica has to offer on our free weekends," Butts said.

"The Tico people influenced me in many ways, but I will try to forever hold on to their 'pura vida' positive and happy attitude toward life," Butts said.

Students traveled around the world simply to take a class, and they came back as enlightened individuals. A quality of learning and living sprouted from a class taken abroad that could not be created by any other experience in any other setting. At Samford, students were given ample opportunities to turn traveling dreams into a vibrant reality. Those who took advantage of the opportunity had no regret.



# A Deeper Approach

*Still fresh in its second year, the University Fellows program brought together students that sought to challenge themselves beyond the prescribed curriculum.*

*by Anne Marie Pope*

Now including students from both the freshman and sophomore classes, the University Fellows found more opportunities to deepen their academic experience and to broaden their opportunities on campus.

The Fellows' core curriculum involved intensive study into the development of western civilization. Students learned writing and rhetorical skills and developed leadership qualities. Classes encouraged group discussion and critical thinking about difficult issues on a higher level.

"My favorite classes are Fellows discussions classes," freshman English major Carlson Coogler said. "I have learned so much in them because they have encouraged critical thinking, effective communication and a love for learning. I will not forget the feeling of discussing a difficult concept in WIT with or without resolving the cognitive dissonance."

The University Fellows program provided many opportunities for students to meet in roundtable discussions with leading figures in the academic community. Most students found these opportunities to be the most valuable learning experiences.

"Talking with Niemat Ahmadi about the genocide in Darfur is certainly something I will not forget," Coogler said.

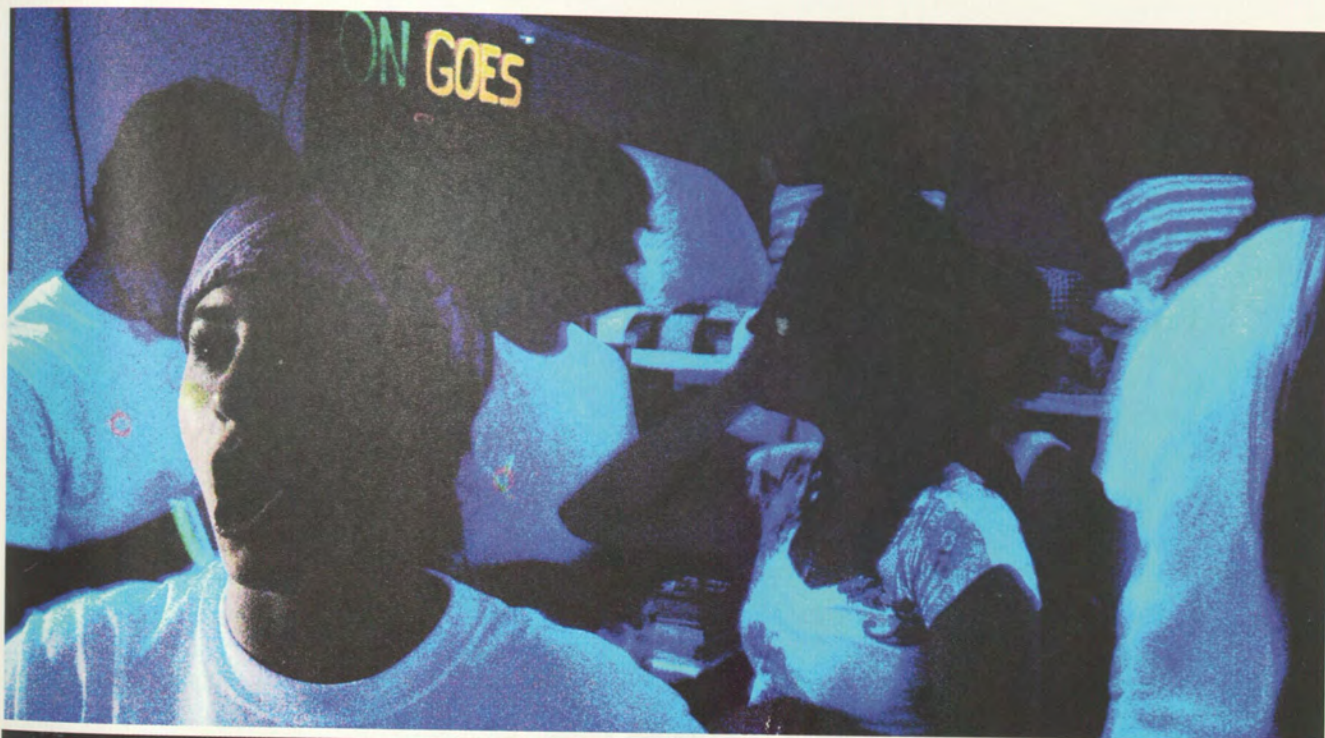
Sequestered into their own academic community, Fellows had to find other opportunities to participate on campus. Students were involved in many different organizations and were able to do other things they loved alongside the rigorous curriculum in the classroom. Sophomore computer science major Jesse Kawell played intramural sports, was the accompanist for Samford Ministries Choir and was the vice chair of the university's chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery.

"I originally thought it would be extremely difficult to balance work and fun, but once I started getting involved in the different activities, I found that the enjoyment made balancing priorities simple and exciting," Kawell said.

One of the most notable things about the University Fellows program was the close camaraderie among the students. Whether due to the necessity for survival in an intense academic climate or simply the amount of time spent together finding common interests, students formed significant bonds that would last outside the classroom.

"The Fellows program has had a profound and overall excellent impact on my experience at Samford both academically and socially," sophomore psychology and Spanish double major Caroline Miller said. "It has challenged me and taught me a great deal as well as introduced me to some of my closest friends."





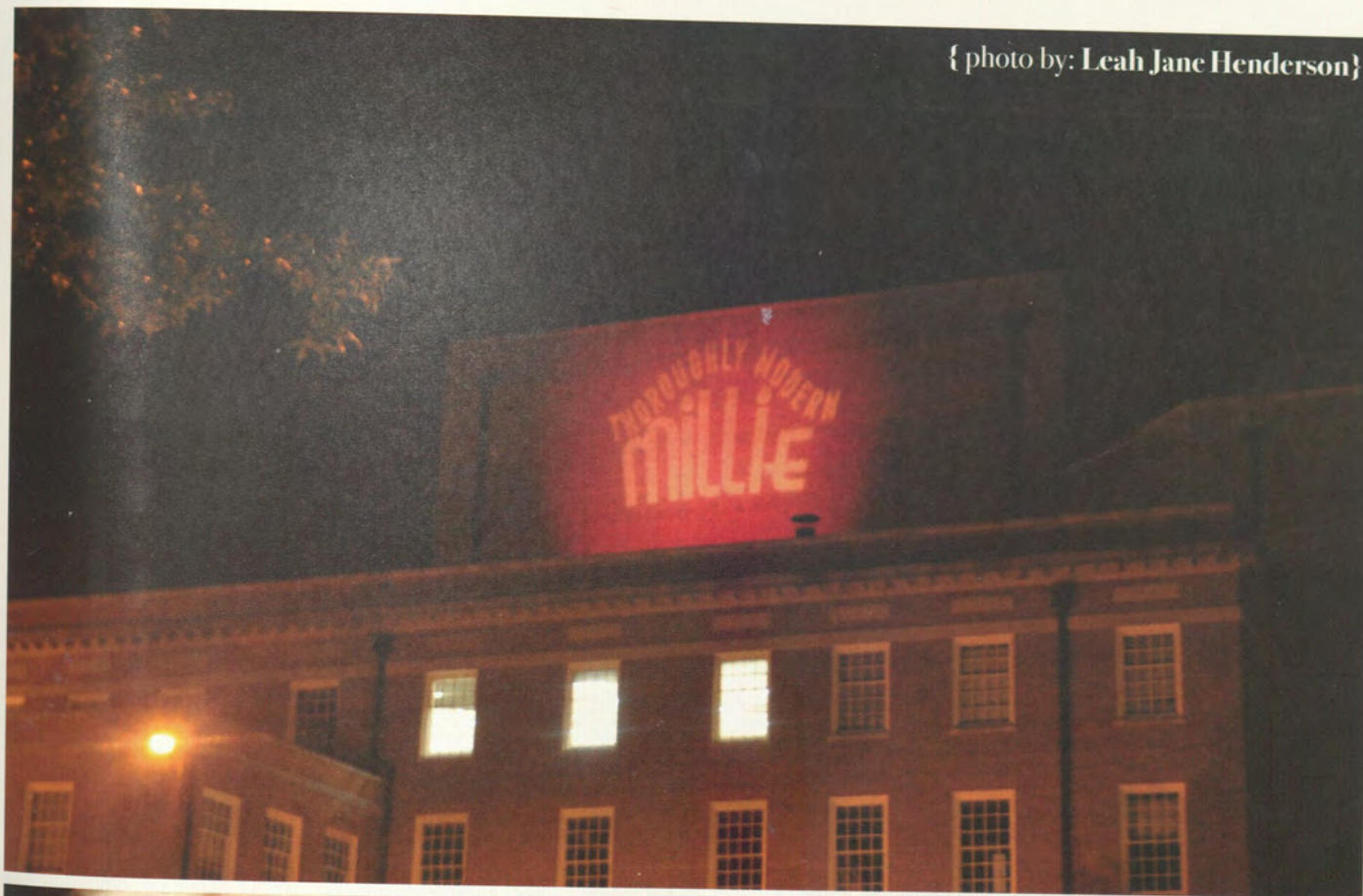


{ photo by: Don Orr }

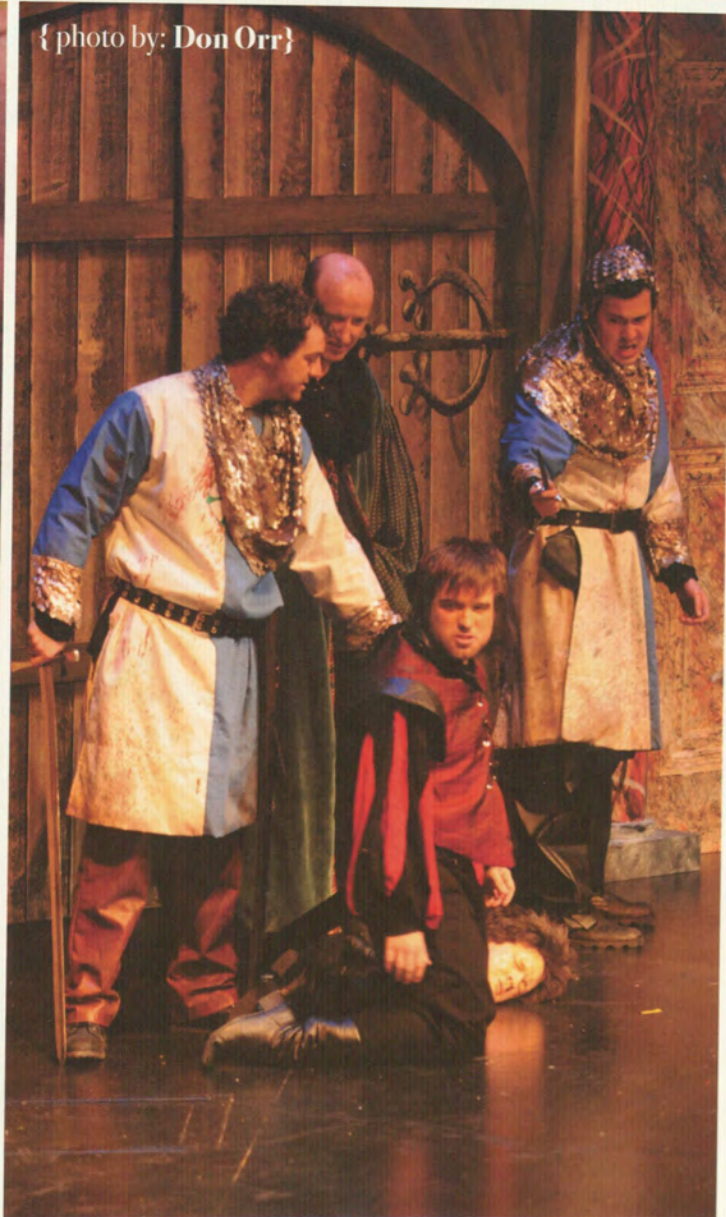




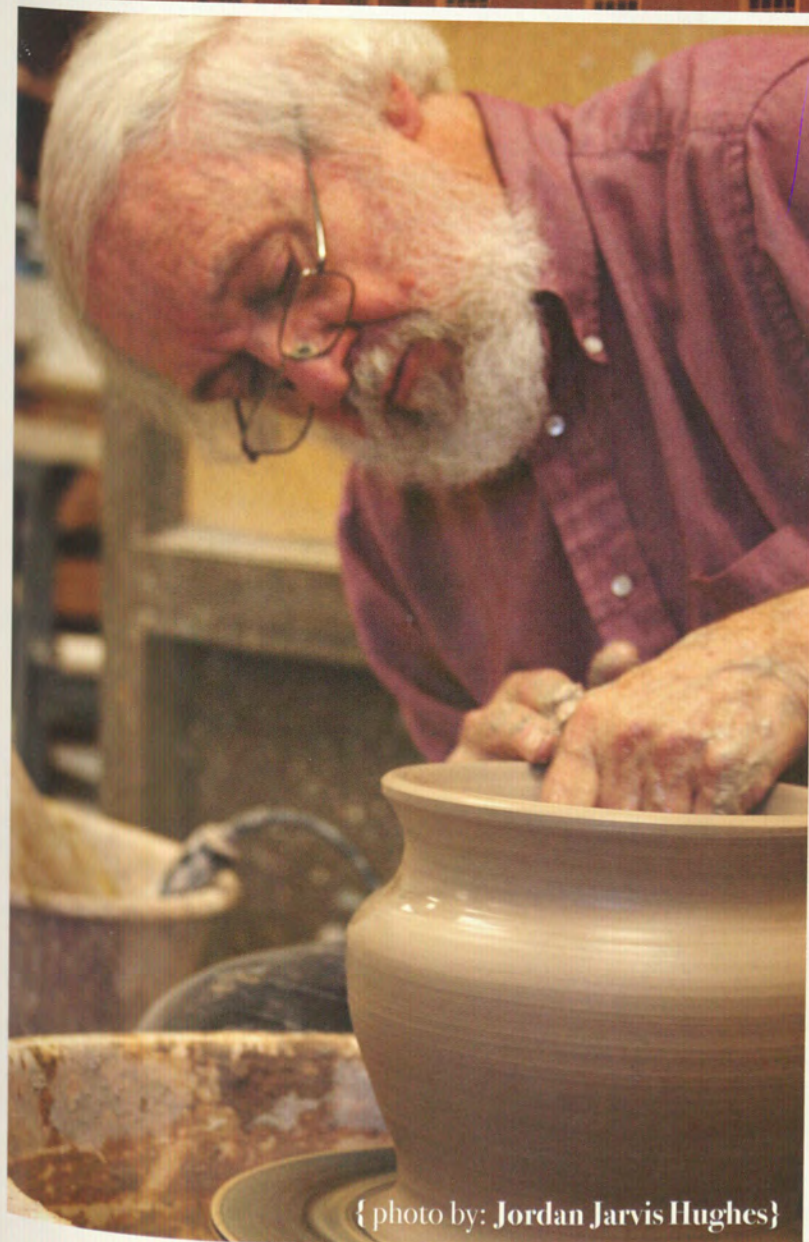
{ photo by: Leah Jane Henderson }



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{ photo by: Jordan Jarvis Hughes }





# Senior Spotlight:

*Hometown: Knoxville, Tennessee* **Jordan Bondurant**  
*Major: Musical Theatre*

***Involvement at Samford over the past four years:***

I have been in more than 20 Samford theatre productions, including Cinderella, High Society, The Rover and Thoroughly Modern Millie. I am a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity and the vice president of the theatre fraternity, Alpha Psi Omega. I was also the emcee of the 2008 Miss Samford pageant.

***In 2-3 sentences, sum up your Samford experience:***

As a whole, attending Samford was one of the smartest choices I have ever made. I was able to enjoy the laid back pace of a small college, while having the guidance and tutelage of any top-tier university. In terms of theatre, Samford has given me the opportunity to experience plenty of different roles on stage, while also learning the technical side off stage.

***What is your favorite memory of your time at Samford?***

My two most memorable moments at Samford were hopping on the Tube every morning while studying abroad in London during the summer of 2009 and serving as one of the directors for Sigma Chi's 2008 Sweepstakes winning Step Sing show, "The Original Fraternity."

***What professor has influenced you the most and why?***

Mark Castle has been the most patient, insightful and caring teacher I have ever had. His unique blend of professionalism, knowledge and devotion to his students is rare in the world of theatre, and no matter where I end up in my life, I will always be thankful for his guidance.

***What was your favorite class and why?***

Acting I with Dr. Sandley. It was a class with only six students (another incredible Samford quality), which made it possible to get plenty of individual attention and training. Dr. Sandley has a great ability to draw things out of people they never thought possible.

***What will you miss the most about Samford?***

There are a lot of things I will miss. The warm Southern charm of both the faculty and students. As cheesy as it is, the friendships I have made over the past four years. And of course, the variety of being able to take Stage Combat 101, Spanish 202, Biblical Perspectives and Scuba Diving all in the same day.

***What is next for you after Samford?***

In the fall, I will be attending the University of Nevada Las Vegas to attain my Masters in Theatre Performance. After that, I will pursue a career in acting.

***What advice do you want to leave with students?***

STUDY ABROAD!!!! It was the smartest decision I made while at Samford, and to ignore the opportunity would be foolish!

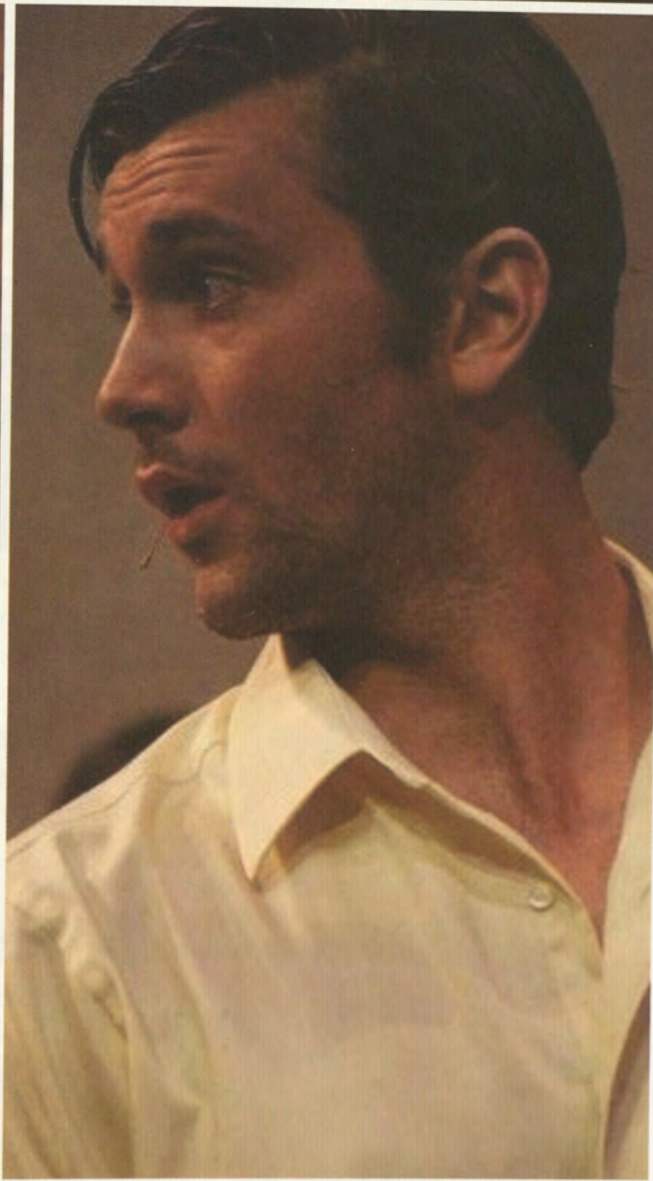
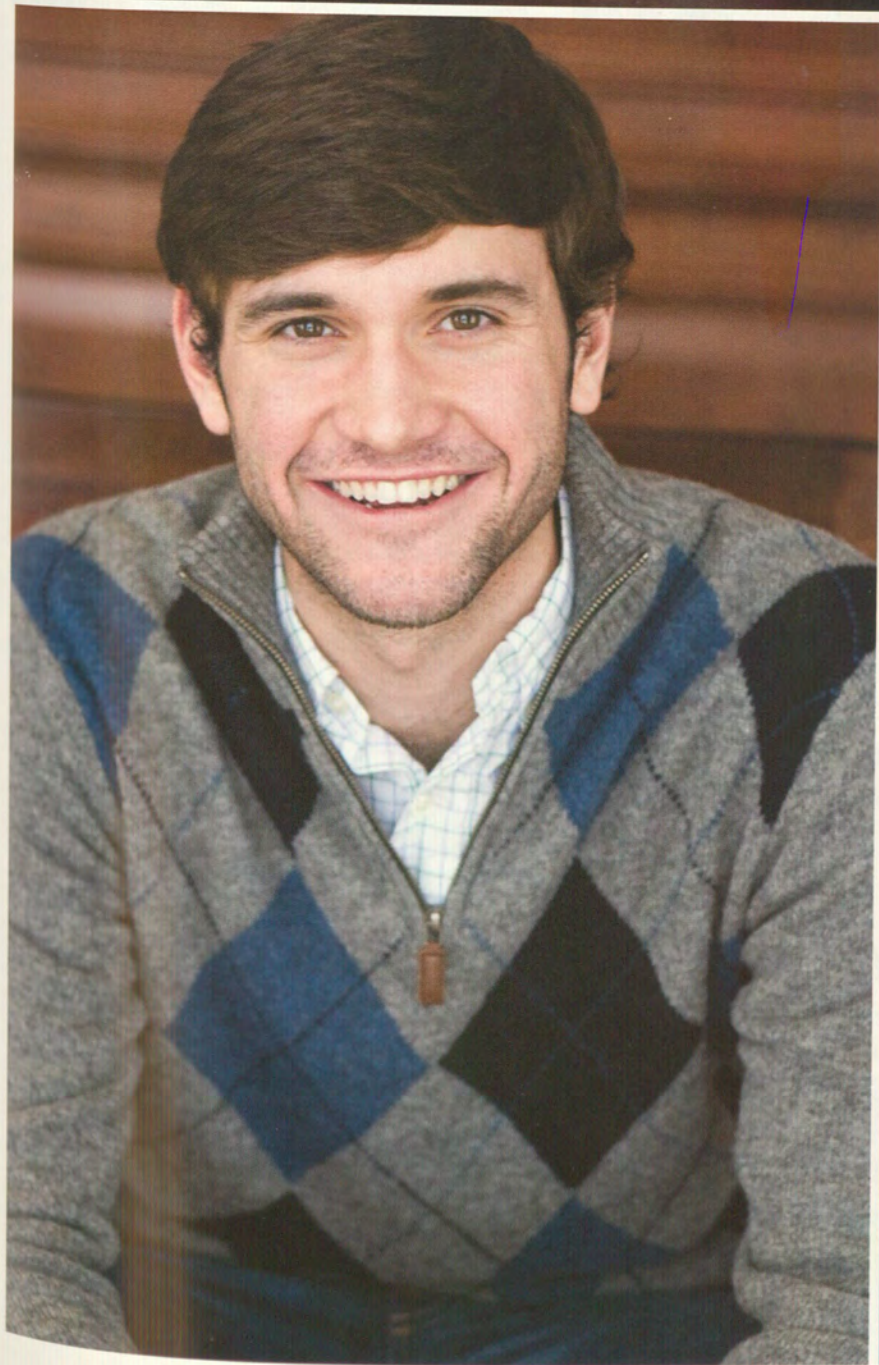
***If you could tell your freshman self something, what would you say?***

Calm down. You don't have to do everything. Do what makes you happy. And make the most of every opportunity, but don't stress over missed chances.

***How has college prepared you for life after college?***

College has taught me the art of multi-tasking—a valuable lesson I had to learn the hard way (thanks CA, CP, Spanish, and theatre department!)





Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Creek Life Competition Academics







# Samford Meets Latin America

*The Latin American Studies Scholars Program and its scholars succeeded in learning about Latin American culture and experiencing it in Birmingham's Hispanic community.*

*by Craig Kleimeyer*

*Arts and Sciences spotlight: Latin American Studies Scholars Program*

History professor Barry Robinson was the coordinator for the program. The program's faculty members included history, geography, political science and world languages and cultures professors, and all were familiar with Latin American culture.

"The purpose of the program is to develop expertise in Spanish language and familiarity with Latin American culture," Robinson said.

In its first year, the two-year program accepted 16 freshmen, and each freshman participated in a learning community in which they minored in Latin American studies. In the fall, the freshmen took a special section of cultural perspectives and communication arts 102, which were linked together as a focus group. In the spring, they took Latin American studies 201. Scholars participated in Spanish Club and other extracurricular activities as well as the service learning activities directly associated with the program.

"Students have volunteered in local elementary school programs tutoring students whose first language is Spanish and need help with their English. They also volunteered at Cahaba Valley Healthcare and participated in adult language ESL program," Robinson said. "Also, students are not just interested in Latin America, but they're interested in a rigorous academic experience."

Between the fall and spring semesters of the 2009-2010 school year, David Chapman, dean of the Howard College of Arts and Sciences, contacted professors who were interested in Latin America about possible scholarship money that was available for students interested in Latin American studies, Robinson said. The idea for the program also came from the apparent need for an increase in student participation in the field of Latin American studies.

"We met and developed a model for the program," Robinson said. "Then, we began recruiting students for the incoming class."

Freshman undeclared major Rebecca Price participated in the LAS Scholars Program.

"Being in the Latin American studies program has definitely been a positive experience," Price said. "I'm really interested in the Spanish-speaking world and in Spanish-speaking people."

Price also said she enjoyed meeting the other scholars and working with the Hispanic community in Birmingham. "My favorite part has been getting to know the Latin American scholars and the professors on campus who, even if they don't teach Spanish or a Latin American studies class, are interested in the Spanish community in the United States and in Latin America," Price said.

Freshman communication studies major Jane Marie Hutcheson came into the program with low expectations, but that changed quickly, she said. "Being a part of the focus group and getting to explore issues in Latin America in my core classes like CA and CP was one of the most pleasant surprises I've had here at Samford," Hutcheson said. "One of the greatest parts of the LAS group is the people in the program. We've really gotten to know each other and we've gotten together on the weekends to go try out Mexican restaurants and play games at our professors' houses."

The program planned a trip to Ecuador after the scholars' sophomore year in summer 2011. "I'll complete the program with a study abroad trip to Ecuador next summer with the rest of the scholars," Hutcheson said. "I can't wait. It has been such a great thing for me so far, and I can't wait to complete the program and study in Ecuador."



# Senior Spotlight:

*Hometown: Madison, Alabama* Erica Carr  
*Major: International Relations with Minors in French and Dance*

***Involvement at Samford over the past four years:***

Beeson Scholar, Alpha Lambda Delta, Alpha Psi Omega, Pi Sigma Alpha, Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Alpha Theta, Pi Delta Phi, Model UN, DanSynthesis, International Club, French Club, Samford Democrats and several Samford Theatre shows including Reflexions, Twelfth Night, Momentum '08, Cinderella, The Rover, Momentum '09, High Society, Richard III, Impulse, Psyche and Thoroughly Modern Millie

***In 2-3 sentences, sum up your Samford experience:***

I thought I knew who I was when I got to Samford, but my entire Samford experience has been figuring out that I'm wrong. It has been a fun and crazy journey to learn more about myself.

***What is your favorite memory of your time at Samford?***

One night during my very first semester at Samford, I couldn't sleep for whatever reason, so I got up at 2 a.m. and walked around the quad. Nobody was there, so I decided to jump in both of the big fountains. The water was freezing!

***What professor has influenced you the most and why?***

Dr. Ledgerwood in the French department has been my favorite teacher, and he has inspired me to really go after what I want to do no matter what. He has also helped me see how you can maintain your own point of view in a world that encourages us to all be the same.

***What was your favorite class and why?***

To be honest, it's a tie between scuba and karate. In scuba, you just breathe underwater for a couple hours. That's awesome. In karate, you kick and punch until you can barely breathe right at all, but you love every second of it. At least I did.

***What will you miss the most about Samford?***

I'll miss the beautiful campus. I love walking through the quad no matter what the weather is like.

***What is next for you after Samford?***

I'll be attending law school at George Washington University in D.C. in the fall to study international law.

***What advice do you want to leave with students?***

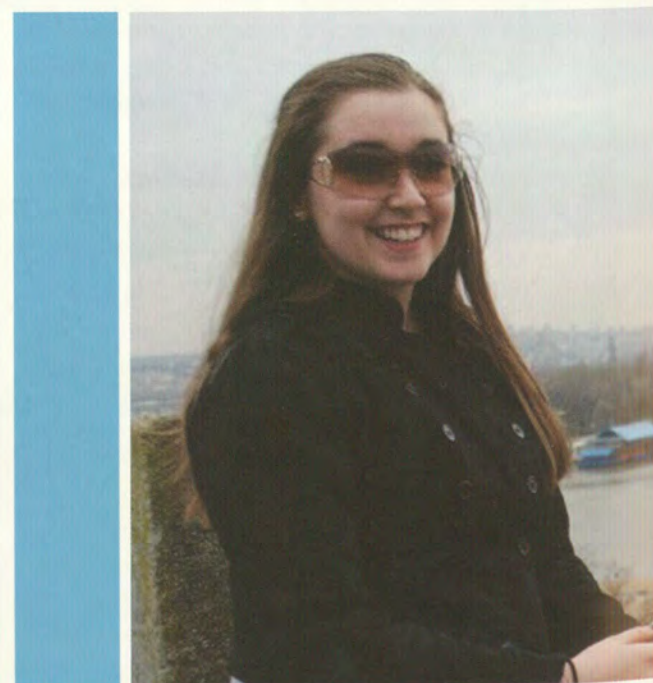
Don't let yourself get stuck in the Samford bubble. Get out of Birmingham on fun car trips, go downtown to get some food or see a band and make friends at other colleges, too. The college experience is bigger than just one campus.

***If you could tell your freshman self something, what would you say?***

Stop playing so much World of Warcraft, and go hang out with people.

***How has college prepared you for life after college?***

I've learned a lot about relationships and working with people, which are life lessons that I'll carry with me forever. It has really changed my outlook on a lot of things, and I feel like I've grown as a person because of it.





# Faculty Spotlight:

**Alma Mater:** B.A., Boston College; **Michael Janas**

M.A., University of Georgia; Ph.D., University of Iowa

**Department:** Communication Studies

**Position:** Associate Professor

**Years at Samford:** 17



***In 2-3 sentences, sum up your experience as faculty at Samford:***

I have really enjoyed my time at Samford. I like to say that I cannot believe that they pay me. I get to read what I want and talk it over with really smart, funny and talented people.

***What is your favorite teaching memory at Samford?***

For most of my time at Samford I was the debate coach. I have really wonderful memories of traveling late at night down some seemingly abandoned highway—talking with the debaters about politics or life or anything.

***What is your favorite class to teach and why?***

I have two. Every semester I teach a class called Rhetorical Criticism. The class is concerned with looking at the various ways that people are persuaded and the ends of that persuasion. The class starts off small, looking at individual pieces of text. By the end, we are engaged in a discussion of how the culture helps to frame our thinking about politics, the economy, gender and our lives. I also love teaching CA. My section is unique because it is structured around debates on some terribly boring topic. However, by the end of the semester, students who did not think that they were interested in esoteric topics (women in combat, vivisection, takings) come to have really well thought out positions on them. It is really neat to see people taking an active interest in an important topic.

***What is your funniest teaching memory at Samford?***

I took a debate class to a debate tournament at Vanderbilt. There were six or seven teams made up of two people. I made a joke that people should keep track of their partner (thinking that the buddy system was pretty infallible). When I got into the van I asked for a team count and everyone said they were there. I managed to leave one whole team at the hotel and did not figure it out until we were at the tournament. Fortunately, they were senior women who figured out how to get there on their own. As they say on the Simpson's: "if the buddy system fails, what hope is there for the rest of us?"

***What about teaching is most rewarding for you?***

When someone finally commits to a class and decides that it is something that they want to do well. They will usually come by to talk with me and say that they want to do well. From that point on, we will work constantly to get stuff just right. I tell the students on the first day that I will not let them outwork me. If they commit to work to create A work, I will work as hard as they do.

***When and how did you know you wanted to be a college professor?***

I resisted it for a long time. Coming out of college, I thought that I wanted to be an attorney. I took some law classes and got into law school. I had a friend who was starting a debate team at the University of Georgia, and he asked me to come down for a year to help him, so I deferred law school. When I was there, I got into the competitive aspects of graduate school and came to love the 24-7 school life of a graduate student. As an undergraduate, I spent a lot of time with debate and thought of college as something that got in the way of doing what I wanted to do. At Georgia and later at Iowa, I realized that the school was the fun part and that the debate slowly began to get in its way.

***What is your best advice for students?***

Treat school like a job. Wake up at the same time every day. Come in the morning. Stay the whole day until the mid-afternoon. Do your work during that time. Go home at night and try not to do any work. My experience is that after 6 p.m., anything is more interesting than doing schoolwork.

***What are your hobbies outside of teaching?***

I have two children that take up a good part of my time. I also like to sail, garden and cook.





{ photos by: Jordan Jarvis Hughes }



# Entrepreneurial Venture

*Three years ago, the Brock School of Business received a boost when it was renamed after benefactor and renowned Birmingham entrepreneur Harry Brock.*  
*by Riley Westmoreland*

**Published in The Samford Crimson, Feb. 3, 2010**

Just before that, however, another important event occurred in the history of the school – the advent of its entrepreneurship program. Now, just more than three and a half years after its creation, the program has been named the 2010 National Outstanding Emerging Entrepreneurship Program.

The award, given by the U.S. Association of Small Business and Entrepreneurship, was created this year, making the Samford program the inaugural recipient. Created to recognize entrepreneurial efforts in universities aimed at improving entrepreneurship education, this Emerging Entrepreneurship Program award is just one of many offered by the USASBE, an organization that Franz Lohrke, chair of Samford's entrepreneurship program, has been involved with since 2000. Because of his involvement, Lohrke received the initial application information and got Samford involved early.

"We submitted our initial nomination material at the beginning of October, and were informed at the end of October that we had been selected as a finalist, along with Creighton University and University of Rochester," Lohrke said.

However, the process did not end there. "We then sent in our final packet at Thanksgiving, and I traveled to USASBE's national conference in Nashville to give a 20-minute presentation to the judging panel on January 16," Lohrke said.

It was that night, after the judging was completed, that Samford's entrepreneurship program was chosen to be the top rising program in the nation. At the awards presentation, it was also noted that more than 70 universities had applied for the different awards offered by the USASBE, making this year an intensely competitive one.

Due to this increased level of competition, Samford had to possess several factors that differentiated its program from the rest.

"We have freshmen write business plans during their first business course (BUSA 100), we team teach our capstone social entrepreneurship class, and we provide fellowships every spring semester that pay our best and brightest students to work as interns in nonprofits in Birmingham," Lohrke said. "Very few universities in the country do any, much less all three, of these things."

But, Lohrke said, none of the program's success is due to just simple chance.

"Before it launched in 2007, we benchmarked against the top programs in the country, and we discovered that they not only focused on training students in the necessary business skills to start and run a business, they worked hard to create an entrepreneurial mindset in their students," he said. "We adopted this same approach."

In light of the program's success, the commitment to the analysis of other programs seems to have paid off, creating a program here at Samford that others will watch in the coming days.

"The award affirms the quality of our program and the general excitement shared by faculty and students," dean Beck Taylor said. "The award confirms that our entrepreneurship program has a bright future."

While the accomplishments of the entrepreneurship program are large, the dreams of those involved are even larger. If the programs' first three years are any indication, there is a bright future ahead for entrepreneurship at Samford. From the unique business plan competition to the program's internationally recognized social entrepreneurship facet, there is no doubt that the program is indeed something special.

Both Taylor and Lohrke point to one special factor above all others – the Samford community.

"We never could have come this far this fast without the remarkable abilities of our faculty, administration, staff and students," Lohrke said. "Their entrepreneurial efforts have helped us build our program quickly to a level that rivals much older programs and should help sustain us as we move forward. In addition, we couldn't have implemented many of our ideas without the tremendous support of Harry Brock, Jr., our advisory board and community supporters, who share our goal of building a world class entrepreneurship program."

With this most recent accolade, there is no doubt that the entrepreneurship program is well on its way to being considered "world class." All the planning and work that went into creating the program is beginning to come to fruition as Samford makes waves in the entrepreneurship community, and no one plans for that to end anytime soon.

"We have always had a goal of creating a nationally-ranked program, and this award hints that we are on our way," Taylor said.



# Senior Spotlight:

*Hometown: Athens, Georgia* Taylor Marie Kardoes  
*Major: Accounting and Finance*

***Involvement at Samford over the past four years:***

Intramurals, Beta Alpha Psi, Habitat for Humanity, Dean's Student Advisory Council, Beta Gamma Sigma, Omicron Delta Kappa, Alpha Lambda Delta, and several internships

***In 2-3 sentences, sum up your Samford experience:***

It has flown by. The experience has been wonderful, challenging and full of great memories.

***What is your favorite memory of your time at Samford?***

Samford traditions like Homecoming and Lighting of the Way with friends, sunny afternoons on the Quad, Step Sing.

***What professor has influenced you the most and why?***

I don't think I can choose just one. Professor Northrup changed the way I thought about things and communicated them in CP freshman year. Dr. Jones always approached class and students with such interest and respect. I learned to be passionate about what you do from him. All of my accounting professors influenced me. They challenged me and prepared me for a career in accounting.

***What was your favorite class and why?***

Financial Institutions—I loved the subject matter, and one of my favorite professors taught the class.

***What will you miss the most about Samford?***

Having the great friends I have made here around all the time. Many of them are moving away after graduation.

***What is next for you after Samford?***

I will go to graduate school for a year, and then I will start as an auditor with an accounting firm in Birmingham fall of 2011.



***What advice do you want to leave with students?***

Make memories, take advantage of opportunities that present themselves and invest in friendships because you are surrounded by amazing people.

***If you could tell your freshman self something, what would you say?***

Don't take yourself so seriously.

***How has college prepared you for life after college?***

I have grown so much as a person through my time at Samford. I feel prepared for graduate school and the working world. My time at Samford has taught me that the most important things in life aren't actually things, but are people, experiences and memories.



# Faculty Spotlight:

**Jeremy Thornton**

*Alma Mater: B.A., Asbury University;*

*M.S., Eastern University; Ph.D, University of Kentucky*

*Department: Economics, Finance, and Quantitative Analysis*

*Position: Associate Professor of Economics*

*Years at Samford: 6*

***In 2-3 sentences, sum up your experience as faculty at Samford:***

A University that takes seriously a combination of academic excellence and spiritual growth for its students is becoming increasingly rare. It has been a great blessing to find and serve at a place such as Samford.

***What is your favorite teaching memory at Samford?***

There have been many. My family and I had a fantastic experience with students during our semester abroad in London. I remember cutting off class short to go outside of the Daniel House to have a snowball fight after a blizzard.

***What is your favorite class to teach and why?***

Intermediate Microeconomic Theory. Nobody takes that class unless they really love economics. I will argue that it is one of the most challenging on campus, but it completely changes how students think about the world around them. After taking that class, they actually think my jokes are funny.

***What is your funniest teaching memory at Samford?***

During a travel course to Lima, Peru, some students ordered dinner at a local restaurant. The dish turned out to be (how to put this delicately...) parts of a goat one might not normally consider eating. I told them I would pay for dinner if they ate it. They did. Never underestimate how cheap college students can be.

***What about teaching is most rewarding for you?***

All the small victories I hear about later—the acceptance letters to graduate school, new jobs, marriages, overseas experiences. Every professor I know loves those random e-mails that show up in our e-mail boxes from some student long ago.



{photo by: Jordan Jarvis Hughes}

***When and how did you know you wanted to be a college professor?***

My father was a college professor at a school a lot like Samford. I grew up on campus and college students were a huge influence on me from a young age.

***What is your best advice for students?***

There are things in life that are hard: graduating college, landing a first job, navigating a career, starting a family. Then, there are things that are easy: showing up on time, presenting yourself professionally, treating people and institutions with respect. Nobody will care about the hard stuff if you can't get the easy things right.

***What are your hobbies outside of teaching?***

There is time to do things outside of teaching? Is that a trick question?



# In the Midst of Disaster

*When nutrition majors*

*Anna McKoy, Megan Scott and*

*Katie Snider decided to travel to Haiti over Janterm, they planned*

*to spend their time working in the nutrition clinic at Canaan orphanage.*

*They said they never expected to find themselves in the midst of a natural disaster and in charge of 75 children. by Melissa McBride*

*published in the Crimson, Feb. 3, 2010*

"I'd been looking for places to go where I could work with nutrition," senior Snider said. "I talked to organizations in Africa and Central America, but I wasn't needed. Then I talked with Hlaracek, a Canaan spokesperson, over the summer, and decided to go there." Snider made her first visit to Haiti in the summer of 2009 and stayed for two months. After that trip, she said she felt that she had to go back.

Freshman McKoy said she found out about the Canaan clinic from Snider. "Katie talked to the freshman nutrition majors about classes, and I remembered that she'd been to Haiti," she said. "I'd wanted to go for years, but just didn't know when I'd be able to."

Junior Scott also said she was unsure about when she'd be able to go to Haiti, but knew she wanted to go. "When I found out about the Janterm trip, I knew that's when I wanted to go," she said.

Prior to the trip, the girls had meetings with the rest of their team, which consisted of eight Samford students and one medical student from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. "I also talked to Chris and Elsie, a nurse at the orphanage, and I had to talk to professors about the research we'd be doing and stuff," Snider said. "There surprisingly wasn't a lot of prep work," McKoy said.

When the girls arrived in Haiti at the end of December, they settled in to life at Canaan quickly. "We lived at Canaan with the kids. We helped at the clinic, took care of the kids, washed the dishes, did office work. We really just did anything that needed to be done," Snider said.

While working at the clinic, the girls fed the children peanut butter supplements to help them gain weight and keep them full. "During the first week there, I was one of the main people working with the babies. I really loved that. They'd kiss you in the morning," Scott said. "I loved working with them."

The room where the girls lived was located above the kids' classroom. "We'd wake up in the morning to kids belting their hearts out," McKoy said. "When we'd come down, they'd be waiting for us."

Snider said she spent a lot of time with the older kids. "I really got to know the older guys at Canaan. We talked a lot about their careers and goals," she said. "I got really close to them."

The girls had been in Canaan for more than two weeks when the earthquake hit. "Katie and I were hand washing clothes outside at the well when the quake hit," Scott said. "We thought it was a huge truck at first, but then we realized what had happened."

McKoy was in the cafeteria eating dinner with the kids when she felt the tremor. "Everyone ran outside when it hit. Anna and another guy who'd been at dinner ran back and had to get the babies," Scott said.







After the earthquake hit, the girls had to figure out how they were going to get out of the country and back to school. All flights in and out of the country had been cancelled. Scott's father, Maj. Bruce Scott, is in the Army National Guard and, after communicating with his daughter via Facebook, he managed to get a Black Hawk helicopter to pick up the girls from Haiti. From there, they went to the Dominican Republic, where they stayed at the American Embassy, and then returned home.

"When I first got back, I was kind of shell-shocked," McKoy said. "I just spent a lot of time with my family and my friends. Now I'm just adjusting to being back at school."

Scott said she has used her time back to try and get word out about the need in Haiti. "I've been trying to carry on life as normal as possible, but I've been doing a lot of interviews just trying to raise awareness about Canaan," she said.

Snider has also been busy trying to promote Canaan's cause. "I've been speaking at churches and doing interviews but also trying to establish a sense of normalcy," she said.

Since being back, the girls have had countless interviews with news stations, radio stations and newspapers. They also spoke at Convo on Tuesday, Feb. 2.

Still, the girls said they are continually trying to process everything they have been through. "It has been hard. I can't watch the news," Snider said. "To see the despair in Haiti... it's hard to come to grips with the fact that I did leave, even though I know it was for the best."

McKoy said she's learning how to rely on God in the midst of hard times. "I'm a planner, but no matter what I plan for, God's going to do what He wants," she said.

"I know I'll never forget Haiti and always be connected to the people because of this. Going through this kind of makes you a little bit Haitian," Scott said.

If you want to help, the girls said that prayer and funding is the most helpful at this time. "They don't need people because they don't need the extra mouths to feed, which is why we left," Scott said. "Send money if you think you should."

"If nothing else, raise awareness," Snider said. "Tell people about Canaan."

Despite the trials the girls have faced, they said they know that good will come from the earthquake. Since they left, at least 13 children at Canaan have been saved and baptized.

"I saw cool acts of God in Haiti. He's there, and he's moving," McKoy said.

"He has used so much of the quake for good," Scott said. "There's still joy in Haiti."



# Senior Spotlight:

*Hometown: Johnson City, Tenn.*  
*Major: Exercise Science*

## Emily Aiken

***Involvement at Samford over the past four years:***

Student Government Association, Class Officer, Alpha Delta Pi, intramurals, Samford Ambassadors, University Ministries, Omicron Delta Kappa, Order of Omega

***In 2-3 sentences, sum up your Samford experience:***

Samford has been my home away from home because of the incredible relationships I've made in the past four years. The bond I have with students, faculty and staff is unlike any other, and that has truly made my Samford experience one that I'll always cherish. I have been challenged, humbled and encouraged in ways that will influence my life for God, for Learning, Forever.

***What is your favorite memory of your time at Samford?***

Christmas Movie Mondays in Vail freshman year and going on road trips with friends just to spend time together in the car

***What professor has influenced you the most and why?***

Dr. Angel has influenced my life the most because of the way he truly cares for students and loves them with the love of Christ.

***What was your favorite class and why?***

Aqua Aerobics with Candi Cole because I got to wake up in the morning and feel like a grandma at the local YMCA.

***What will you miss the most about Samford?***

Definitely the close relationships within the Samford community and Dr. Westmoreland's "First Thoughts"

***What is next for you after Samford?***

In the fall, I will attend the Kanakuk Institute in Branson, Mo., and then hopefully enter Physician's Assistant school the following year.



***What advice do you want to leave with students?***

Take advantage of every minute you have in college. Don't let one pass by without making it count. Invest in people and be intentional with your words and actions. "Be careful then how you live, not as unwise, but as wise, making the most of every opportunity..." Ephesians 5:15-16

***If you could tell your freshman self something, what would you say?***

Getting your first B is not the end of the world, and it won't ruin your life, I promise. However, the GPA you set for yourself freshman year is pretty much what it will be throughout college. Once that first year is done, it's almost impossible to significantly raise your GPA. So study hard, play hard and do it all for the glory of God.

***How has college prepared you for life after college?***

College has prepared me to be the best that I can in be, both in word and deed. I am prepared to work with all my heart and mind in whatever role the Lord places before me. I have learned the importance of not comparing myself to others or trying to be someone else, but truly striving to be the best me I can be.



# Faculty

## Spotlight:

### Maurice Persall

***Macon Award Winner***

***Alma Mater: B.A., St. Bernard College;***

***M.A., University of Alabama;***

***Ed.D., Auburn University***

***Department: Graduate Studies***

***Position: Chair and Professor***

***Years at Samford: 16***

***In 2-3 sentences, sum up your experience as faculty at Samford:***

I have been at Samford for 16 years, all in the Graduate Studies program in the School of Education. I have been involved in the development of several new programs, the most significant being the creation of the school's first doctoral program (Ed.D. in Educational Leadership).

***What is your favorite teaching memory at Samford?***

The graduation of our first doctoral cohort. We admitted 13 students in our first cohort, and they all graduated within two and a half years.

***What is your favorite class to teach and why?***

There are a couple of courses that I enjoy teaching. One is the Foundations of Instructional Leadership course at the master's level. The other is Leading Change, which we teach at the EdS level.

***What about teaching is most rewarding for you?***

There is a high level of satisfaction from teaching graduate students. They are already working in their chosen profession and are motivated to prepare themselves to do a better job and to gain credentials for advancement. They are anxious to learn new information and new strategies they can use in their practice.

***When and how did you know you wanted to be a college professor?***

Prior to joining the faculty in the School of Education, I served as a teacher and administrator in the public school systems of Alabama for 32 years. For several years I had been interested in possibly culminating my career in higher education, and I am very appreciative that I have had this opportunity.

***What is your best advice for students?***

We advise all of our students that it is very important to commit to lifelong learning...that you have never "arrived," There is always something more to be learned in order to continue being successful in your profession.



{ photo by: Jordan Jarvis Hughes }



# Beyond Our Border

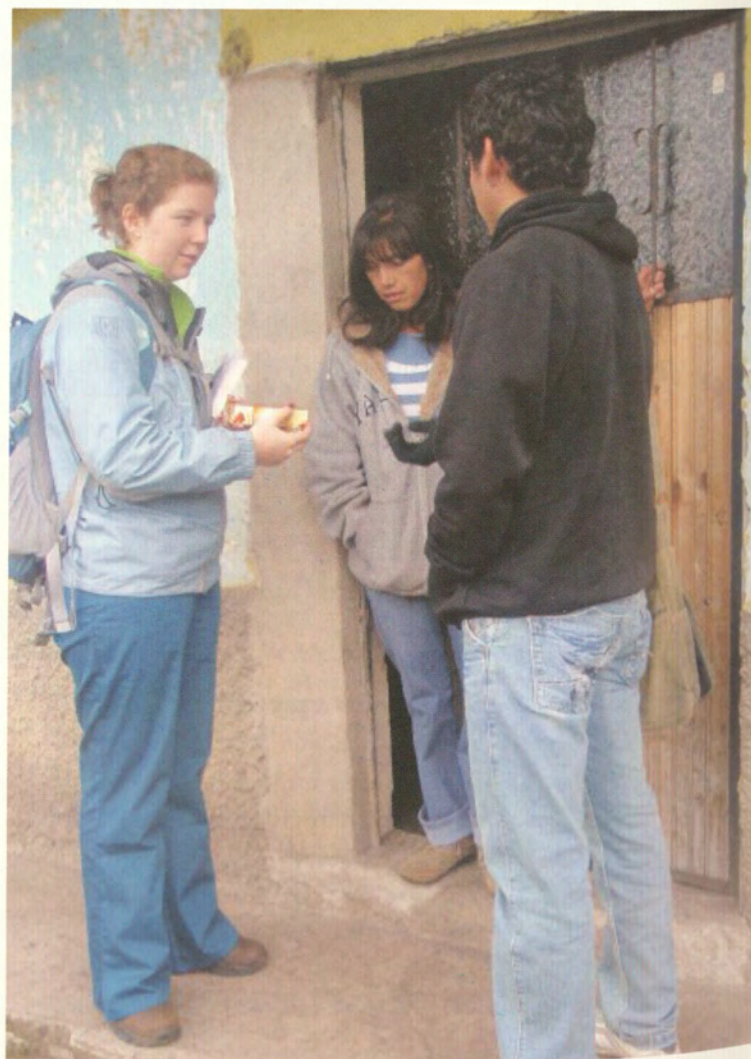
*From the perspective of  
Laura Donnelly*

A group of nursing students traveled to Quito, Ecuador, for Janterm 2010 with our faculty Julie Head and Lora Shelton. Though we stayed in Quito, we traveled to many smaller villages to set up medical clinics where we could provide appropriate medical care and share the Lord with Ecuadorians. Two clinics were held each day, and throughout the course of a week, our staff saw 1798 medical patients and 1463 eyeglass patients.

Along with providing medical attention, we went door-to-door around Quito with E3 Mission's evangelical team. 316 professions of faith were made during our time with the evangelical team to add to the 1310 professions made at the clinics.

After a long week of traveling and helping others, we enjoyed a fun day of tourist activities, including a visit to the Equator.

We had a blast working with E3 Missions and the members of our team from all over the U.S.





{ photo by: Jordan Jarvis Hughes }



Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Greek Life Competition Academics



# Senior Spotlight:

*Hometown: Macon, Ga.*  
*Major: Nursing and Biology*

Sarah Franklin

***Involvement at Samford over the past four years:***

Alpha Delta Pi sorority, Community Service Council, Presidential Advisory Committee, Nursing Diplomats, Samford University Association of Nursing Students

***In 2-3 sentences, sum up your Samford experience:***

During my time at Samford, I have grown emotionally, spiritually, and academically. I have made many wonderful friendships and memories over the past four years.

***What is your favorite memory of your time at Samford?***

My favorite memories at Samford are the wonderful times I've had with my friends. I will always remember weekend road trips, late night runs for ice cream, meaningful conversations with best friends and enjoying Icees and Chick-fil-a biscuits on the Quad during Convo.

***What professor has influenced you the most and why?***

Dr. Cindy Berry has been a huge influence on me and my nursing career. Her compassion for her patients and her high standard for nursing care have inspired me to become a better nurse. She also is extremely knowledgeable and incorporates that knowledge into her patient care. I hope to be able to do that when I become a Registered Nurse.

***What was your favorite class and why?***

My favorite class was Adult Health II, an upper-level critical care nursing course that teaches how to care for critically ill patients. I really enjoyed my hospital rotations for this course in the intensive care unit and the emergency room.

***What will you miss the most about Samford?***

I will miss the close-knit community of Samford. I will also miss the group of friends that I have established over the last four years.

***What is next for you after Samford?***

I plan to go back home to Georgia to work in a critical care setting as a Registered Nurse. After working for a year, I am planning on attending medical school.

***What advice do you want to leave with students?***

I would encourage students to enjoy their time at Samford and make the most of every opportunity. I would also tell students to find a way to get involved at Samford and to give back through community service.

***If you could tell your freshman self something, what would you say?***

I would tell myself to enjoy every minute of my four years at Samford because college is over so quickly.

***How has college prepared you for life after college?***

College has prepared me to persevere in every circumstance. It has taught me that God truly is my provider and my rock. College has prepared me to face whatever life may hand me and has taught me the importance of knowledge and learning.





# Faculty Spotlight:

Janet G. Alexander

*Alma Mater: B.S.N, M.S.N, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Ed.D., Samford University*  
*Position: Professor, undergraduate and graduate programs, and Director of the Accelerated Second Degree Program*  
*Years at Samford: 19*

***In 2-3 sentences, sum up your experience as faculty at Samford:***

I have had a wonderful experience at Samford. I have seen the school of nursing grow and change to become one of the top schools in the country. We now offer undergraduate and graduate programs drawing students from across the country to our programs. I, too, have grown as a professor over these years by having the opportunity to participate in the Latin American Fellows Program in Ecuador with other Samford faculty, to present research on PBL in places such as Hong Kong and Peru, and to teach some of the brightest and best students in nursing's undergraduate and graduate programs.

***What is your favorite teaching memory at Samford?***

My favorite teaching memory is being part of the problem based learning (PBL) initiative in 1998. I was able to work with faculty from other disciplines, as well as in nursing, to learn and implement this strategy that totally changed my approach to teaching and learning. One of my first student PBL groups presented their work at a national conference in Washington, D.C., and won first place.

***What is your favorite class to teach and why?***

Nursing research is my favorite class to teach because students approach the course with trepidation. They complete the class with the confidence to understand, enjoy and implement research in their practice.

***What is your funniest teaching memory at Samford?***

I was in a community clinic with a beginning student in an urban population of school children. Even though we had discussed in class issues of poverty and access to health care in the U.S., my student said, "I thought you had to leave the country to find poor people."

***What about teaching is most rewarding for you?***

It is so rewarding to see my students grow and mature in



{photo by: Jordan Jarvis Hughes}

their approach to caring for others. Nursing is an art. It takes time and practice to develop to become a great nurse. I really get a chance to see that as many of my former students are working in the local area.

***When and how did you know you wanted to be a college professor?***

When I was 25 years old, I was given the opportunity to teach in a hospital-based school of nursing. I thought I would try it, and I was hooked. I enjoyed the student interaction and the teaching aspect completely. I knew after one year of teaching that I wanted to pursue teaching as my profession.

***What is your best advice for students?***

I encourage students to study in a field and setting they enjoy. If you don't enjoy your work, change to another option.

***What are your hobbies outside of teaching?***

Traveling, reading mystery novels, attending and watching Alabama football games, and going to Keith Urban concerts every chance I can.



# Sealed with a Diploma

*In a series of six commencement ceremonies, 802 students sealed their Samford academic careers and left Lakeshore Drive with diplomas in hand, smiles on their faces and four plus years of Samford experiences in memory.*

*by Lauren Sharpe*

The two-day commencement weekend opened on Friday, May 14, with the first annual prayer breakfast, a time meant for prayer, worship and reflection. The breakfast replaced the traditional baccalaureate service held on the Friday evening of commencement weekend. Not replaced, though, was the “senior walk” that preceded the service. Following the prayer breakfast, graduates processed along Centennial Walk, as to come full circle from the “freshman walk” they took at orientation.

Also on Friday were the first of the commencement ceremonies. A combined 400 seniors were represented in the graduations of the Brock School of Business, Cumberland School of Law, Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing and McWhorter School of Pharmacy. The same number graduated during the Howard College of Arts and Sciences, School of the Arts and Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies ceremony on Saturday morning, May 15.

In each ceremony, graduates received intangible advice from professionals and peers to carry with their diplomas.

Brock School of Business graduates heard from David Carrington, president of RacingUSA.com and member of the Board of Overseers, who shared with them that life could change at any moment and left with them four life lessons – be positive; be prepared; be open; be patient.

Dean Beck Taylor, in his final commencement ceremony at Samford, reminded graduates that “change is the only constant in life. Your title may change throughout your life, but you will never lose the title of Samford Alum.”

As they began their journeys as Samford alums, graduate Joie Campeaux challenged her classmates to continue to “explore, dream and discover.”

James L. Harris, deputy chief nursing officer for the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs addressed nursing graduates about the ever-changing profession they were entering. He left them with the advice from children’s rights activist Marian Edelman, “Service is the rent we pay for living on the earth.”

Pam Siddall, the new president and publisher of The Birmingham News, spoke to graduates in the largest ceremony about being true to self. “It takes courage to believe in yourself, to be able to adjust and adapt to an ever-changing world, to take risks knowing that you’ll sometimes fail,” she said. “You must have a strong belief in yourself to do the right thing, even when faced with criticism.”

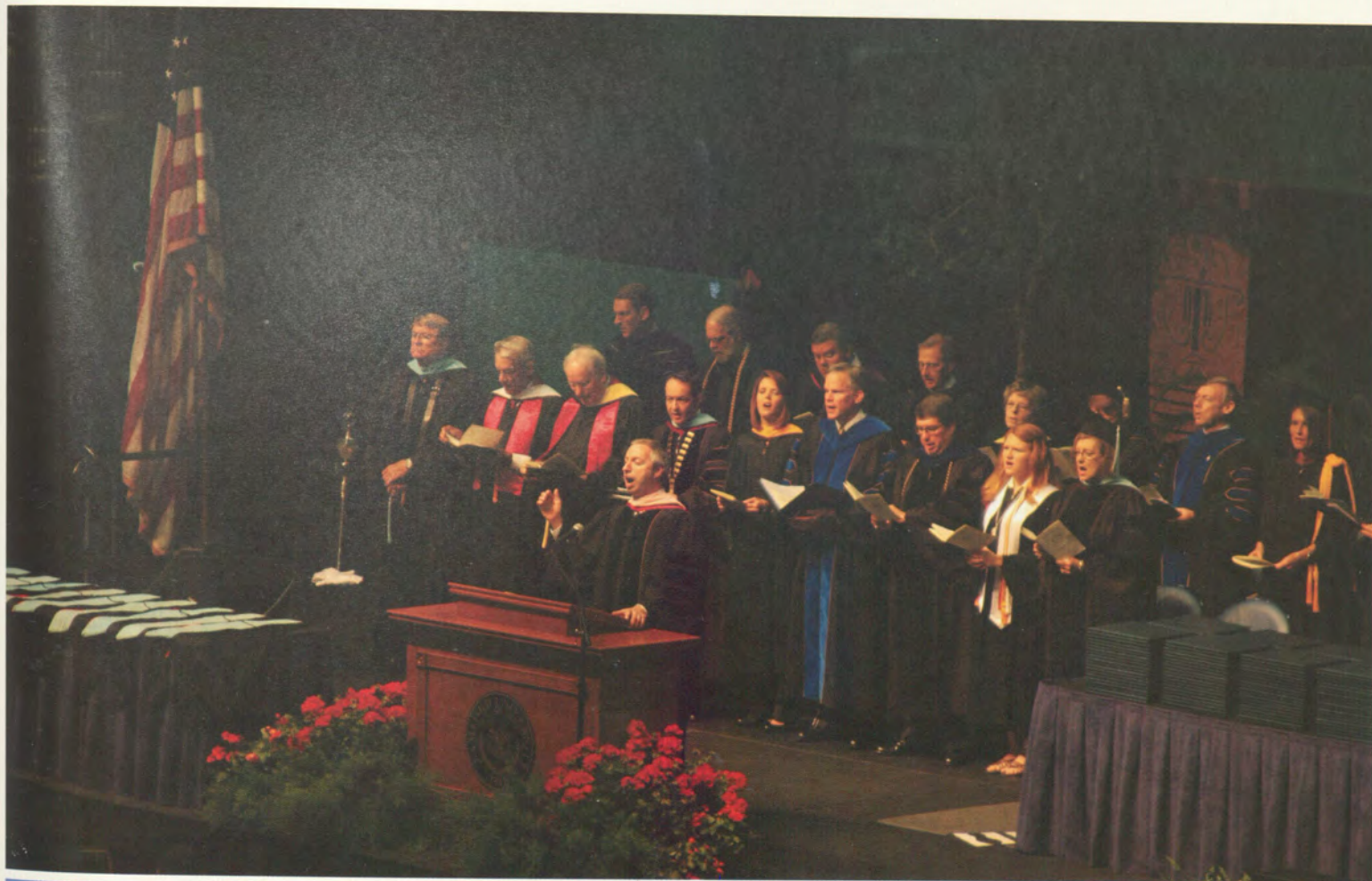
She encouraged graduates to serve others because “everyone needs a cause larger than themselves” and to commit to life-long learning and discovery. “The man who graduates today and stops learning tomorrow is uneducated the day after,” she quoted World War I Secretary of War Newton Baker.

Following Siddall’s lead, senior class president Emily Aiken encouraged her classmates, “Don’t stop believing in the relationships you’ve built at Samford...in your dreams to succeed...and in a God who has a plan for you.”

Top students honored in the ceremonies were nursing graduate Sarah Franklin, recipient of the President’s Cup for highest academic average, and December business graduate Crystal Martin, winner of the Velma Wright Irons Award for second highest average. Communication studies major Meredith Shaw and family studies major Trey Montgomery received the John C. Pittman Spirit Award. Westmoreland also awarded an honorary diploma to the family of the late Jim Griffin.

In closing, Westmoreland told the class of 2010 they would always be his class because they entered the same time he began at Samford. And as he sent the graduates out “with the appropriate degree,” he sent them “with our prayers that you will use what you gained here in the service of God and of humankind wherever you may go in this needy world.”





Tradition Today Birmingham Faith Involvement Greek Life Competition Academics



# Commencement

December 12, 2009

Wesley Alexander	Anna Maria Ceravolo	Daniel Gossett	Brent Nall
Christopher Alfaro	Candace Clippard	Abeer Haddad	Sara Nessly
Asa Alkerson	Meredith Cloyd	Michael Hamilton	Brad Nichols
Heather Allen	Meredith Cloyd	Andrew Hargrave	Kyle Nichols
Joel Allen	Joshua Coble	Andrew Henderson	Jennifer Niedermeier
Angela Allen	Kate Collins	Adrian Henderson	Patrick Ollinger
Bailey Anna	Kelly Cooper	Jeremy Hicks	Julie Elizabeth Parmenter
Kecia Ashley	Andrew Crisp	Julian Hollar	Katherine Morgan Pearce
Sharon R. Atkinson	Jared Dahlke	Angela Hollis	Woodie Perkins
Blair Badham	Steven Davenport	Laura Immel	Ashley Perry
Misty J. Bailey	Jarret Davis	Scottie Jackson	David Phillips JR
Bobby Baird	Tena Davis	Adam Jones	Lenord Pickett-Sadler
Britonya Banks	Matthew Davis	Kathleen Jones	Katie Pinsonneault
Carnell Banner	Andrew Dick	Sandra Kindred-Williams	Whitney Polistra
Marissa Benjamin,	Nick Dritchard	David Knapp	Nathan Price
Michelle Bird	Amanda Duckworth	Jackson Knox IV	Christopher Putt
Elysia Boes	Iverson Dudley	Katlynn Knuth	Richard Rice
Jasmine Bolden	Mary Duffee	Charles Kucera	Richard Riley
Ashley Nicole Bonner	Jennifer Elkins	Katy Langley	Dow Walker
Michael Bowles	Andrew Elliott	Quentine Lee	Melissa Wallace
Adrian Bradley	Jayne Eubanks	Emily Leithauser	David Wallen
Edward Brandenburg	Joshua Fields	Kimberly Leland	Yolanda Washington
Paige Brannon	Megan Fitzpatrick	Laura Lindsey	Matthew Weatherly
Jane Brock	Ashley Nicole Flowers	Emily Mallard	Hannon Webb
Leslie Kay Brown	Ryan Fogg	John Markwood	Ryan Wilson
Stephen Brown	Lauren Ford	Crystal Martin	James Wilson
Whitney Brownlee	Ryan Fordham	Ashley McCombs	Cayley Winters
Kelly Anne Buckner	Elizabeth Rebekah Fuller	Lindsay Miller	Angela Yarbrough
Zachary Burkhalter	Emily Katherine Gettys	Ashley Mills	James Yerger
Volha Caballero	Jillian Gibbs	Payden Montgomery	Robert Zandstra
Hamlin Caldwell	Ashley Gillespie	Maggie Mordecai	
Cameron Campbell	Julie Gillespie	Marion Lyle Morrison	
Allison Campbell	Robert Goler	Josephine Murray	
Mandy Catrett	Patrick David Gordon	Christopher Nager	













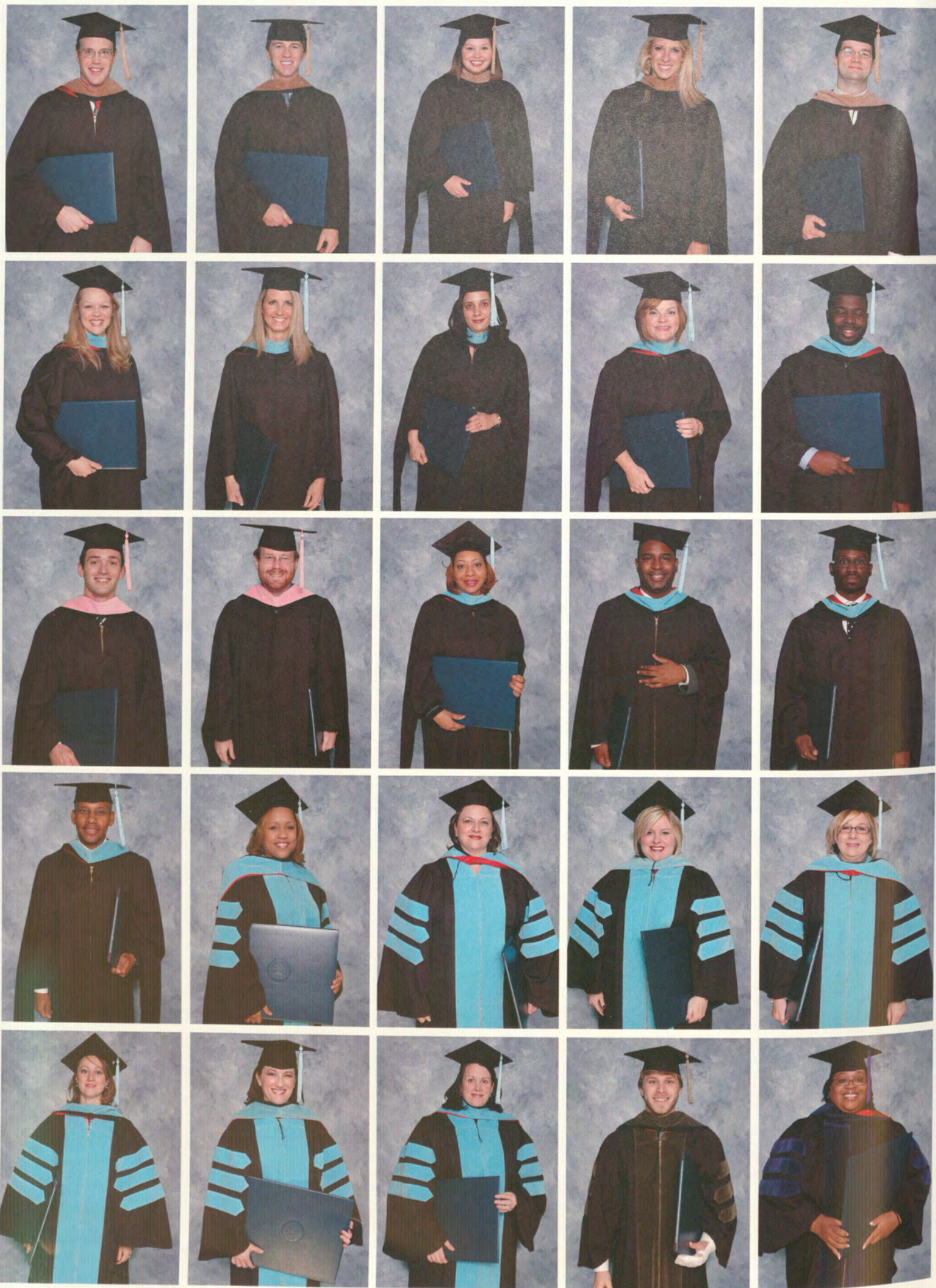




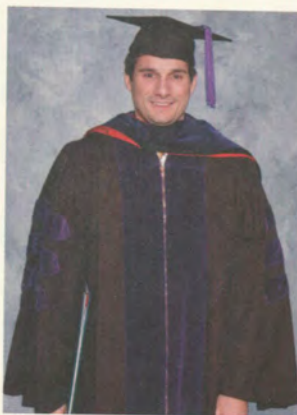
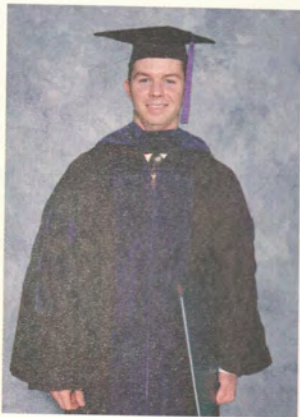














# Commencement

May 14, 2010

Mehrnaz Adibi	Megan Butler	Kimberly Eddy	Emily Hawes
Jeremy Alexander	Tai Butler	Windon Edge	Leah Hawthorne
Shaila Ali	Frances Cade	Kristy Elders	Brook Hibbs
Allison Allbrooks	Joshua Campbell	Robert Ellis	Rebecca Hicklen
Stephanie Allen	Joie Campeaux	Ryan England	Heather Highfill
James Allor	June Cassman	Kathleen Ernest	Tori Hilderbrand
Lorie Allsbrooks	Cayci Casteel	Benjamin Evans	Mary Holden
Jordon Anderson	Ashlie Chaniott	Deena Evans	Kimberly Hood
Josh Anderson	Jeffrey Chapman	Allison Farmer	Deborah Hoover
David Anderson	Delia Charest	Stephanie Farr	Emory Horne
Candace Assenmacher	Sherri Chatman	Joseph Feick	James House
Ashley Auello	Leigh Ann Childress	Angela Fister	Morgan Howard
Miles Bailey	Shea Click	Thomas Fister	Christopher Hulin
Clarissa Baker	Frances Cohenour	Donte Flanagan	Tobey Humphries
Abby Baker	Sara Combs	Julie Fort	Tanya Hunnicutt
Michael Barberic	Megan Coolsby	Thomas Fowler	Joseph Hunt
Megan Bartlett	Amber Cress	Sarah Franklin	Farzan Isfahane
Caroline Baxter	Brooke Crutchfield	Eric Frazier	Farzan Isfahani
Allison Beatty	Kristen Currie	Kathryn Galphin	Hadyn Jackson
James Bell	Ian Cutting	Emily Garrett	Brenda Jacobs
James Bell	Paul Dacus	Thomas Gasque	Katie Jeffreys
Karry Bentley	An Dang	Chase Givens	Philip Johnson
Eric Bergquist	Tuong Dang	Matthew Glover	Lacy Johnston
Wade Bilger	Amelia Davis	Robert Goethe	Joe Jones
Lindsey Bise	Margaret Davis	Charles Greene, II	August Jones
Julie Bivens	Courtney Davis	Ayanna Griffin	Kelsey Jones
Maria Boackle	Brianne Davis	William Gunn	Spencer Jones
Evan Boyett	Leah Deanhardt	Lindsey Hahn	Tara Jones
Daniel Brackin	Cally Detter	Matthew Hale	Liza Kabachia
Chad Brantley	Melissa Diamond	Zach Hamilton	Taylor Kardoes
Mary Angela Britton	Jimmi Lynn Dixon	Paul Handley	Darrell Kent
Jill Brown	Jessica Dockery	Victor Hart	Suzanne Kerkhof
Laura Bruner	Beverly Nicole Duke	Nina Harvey	Robert Killingsworth
Julian Burdette	Susan Earnest	James Hatchett	Emily Kinsaul

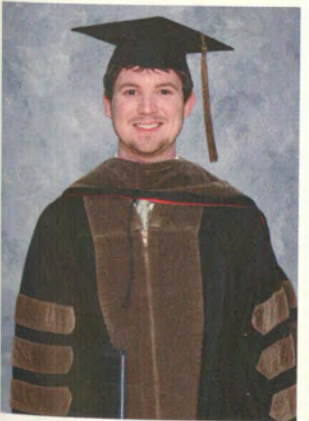


Genny Kirkland	Brittany O'Neal	Ashley Shelsby	Chris Welch
Lacey Kirkland	Christy O'Neill	Nakiesha Shepherd	Patrick Wells
Justin Knighten	Natalie Owen	In Chul Shin	Morgan Welty
Christopher Koogler	Jamekia Owens	Micheal Shorrosh	Erin Wert
Christopher Kowalski	Amanda Oyler	Natalie Short	Christina Westbrook
Erica Krogsgard	Aileen Parker	Leah Sidwell	Joseph Wezenter
Amanda Ladd	Stephanie Parkison	James Sikes	Julie Wilbeck
Melissa Landers	Payal Patel	Jessica Skelley	Brooke Williams
Pamelo Lane	Amber Patrick	Jonathan Slevin	Mary Williams
Bonnie Lioce	Lyndsey Patrick	James Sloan	Caleb Williamson
Brad Livingston	Laura Pearson	Ashley Smith	Elizabeth Wilson
Megan Locklear	Karyn Pence	Anna Smith	Lauren Wortham
Bobbie Loveless	Rosalynde Peterson	Melissa Smith	Shea Wright
Adrienne Ludinar	Andraya Phillips	Lindsey Smitherman	Lara Beth Wynn
Jennifer Luker	Emily Pinon	Charmaine Smitherman	Lauren Yeager
Valerie Macon	Christopher Pittman	Tanya Solomon	Karleta Young
Jennifer Marcilliant	Jeremy Plyler	Casey Souders	Rachael Zicarelli
Jennifer Martin	Krystal Powe	Zachary Sparks	
Ellen Martin	Emily Price	Teresa Stanford	
Kristin Mcduffie	Allison Provine	Katelyn Stanier	
James Mckinnon	Dustin Pruett	Jonathan Stephends	
Casey McLaughlin	Erin Randall	Michelle Stubbs	
Kathy Mclean	Emily Ray	Marilyn Swindle	
Meghan Merriss	Christopher Ray	Kristian Testerman	
Kelley Millwood	Meredith Redus	Bobby Thompson	
Ava Mitchell	Matthew Reed	Elizabeth Trucks	
Susan Montgomery	Walton Reed	Laura Underwood	
Chase Moore	Jessica Rhoden	Geraldine Vargas	
Brittany Morgan	Elizabeth Richardson	Justin L. Vesser	
John Morgan	Clyde Rivers	Andrew Villarreal	
Amanda Morgan	Lindsey Roberts	Travis Vizier	
Raegan Morton	Jamey Roberts	Joseph Waits	
Faith Mugwe	John-Mark Rolling	Justin Walker	
Charly Murphree	Martha Roper	Brittany Walters	
Vivian Myers	Jessica Roth	Verlon Walters	
Amy Nelson	Heather Ryan	Justin Warden	
Cedric Ngameni	Adam Sanders	Margaret Ware	
Michelle Nguyen	Nathan Sapp	Beth Watson	
Pennie Nichols	Chris Saunders	Sara Watson	
Kathryn Nix	Lauren Scott	Jonathon Weathers	
Natalie Northam	Randy Sheffield	Jonathan Weber	









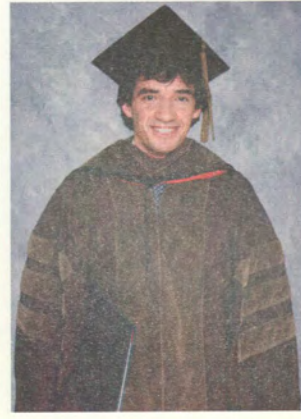




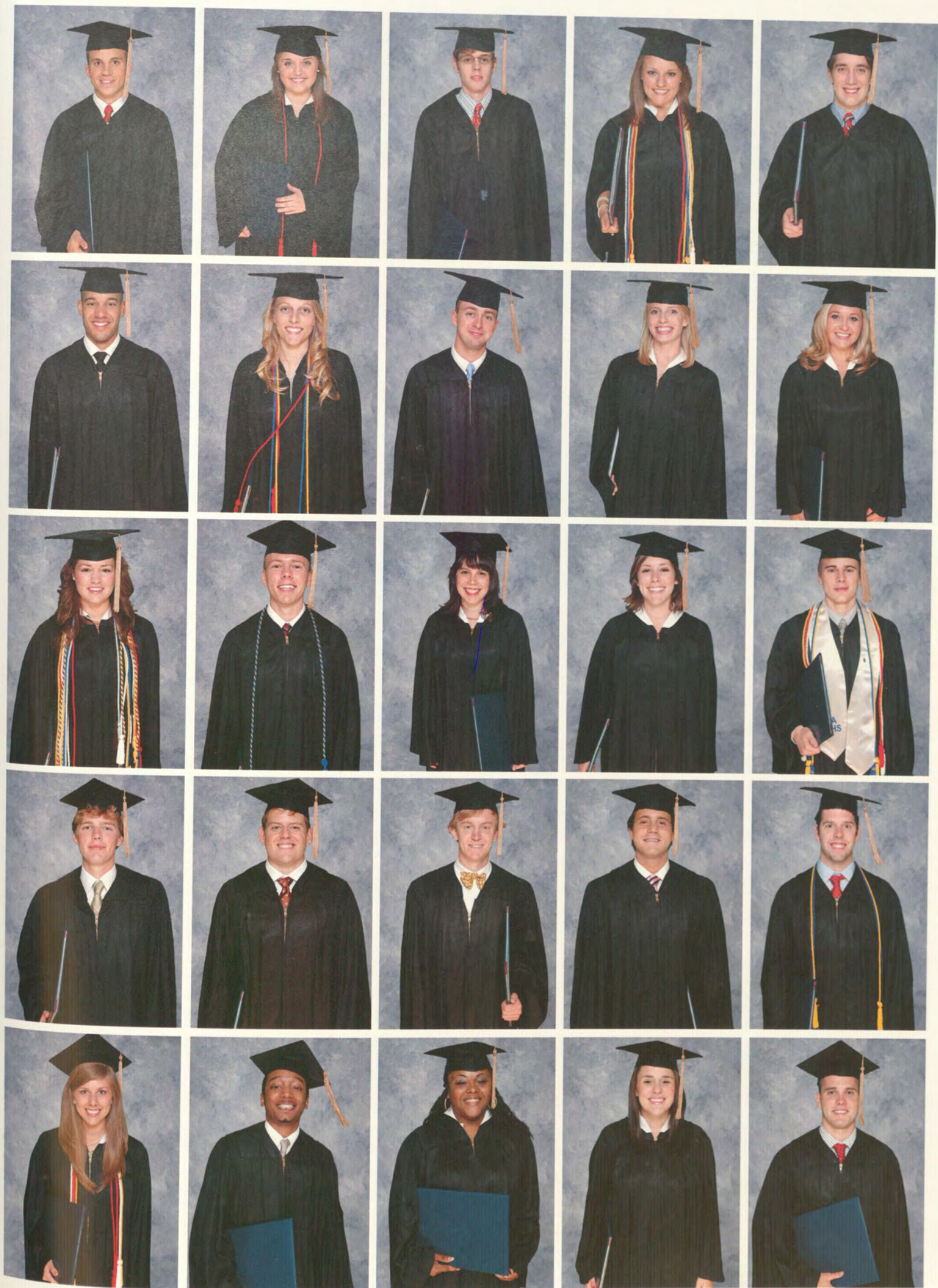




















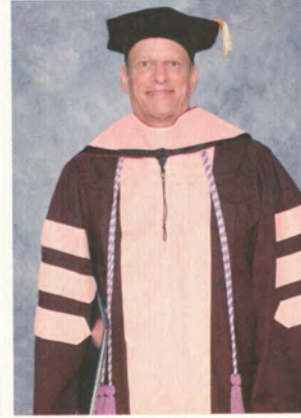
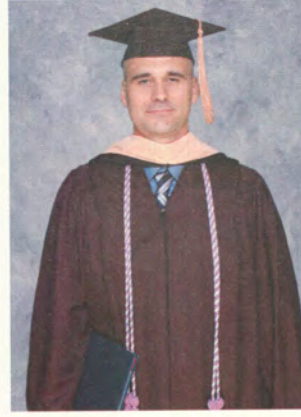
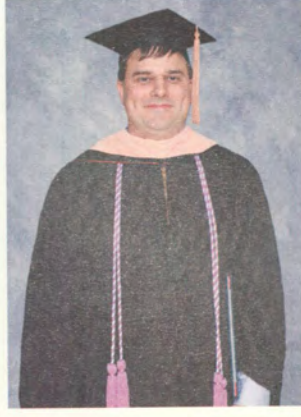




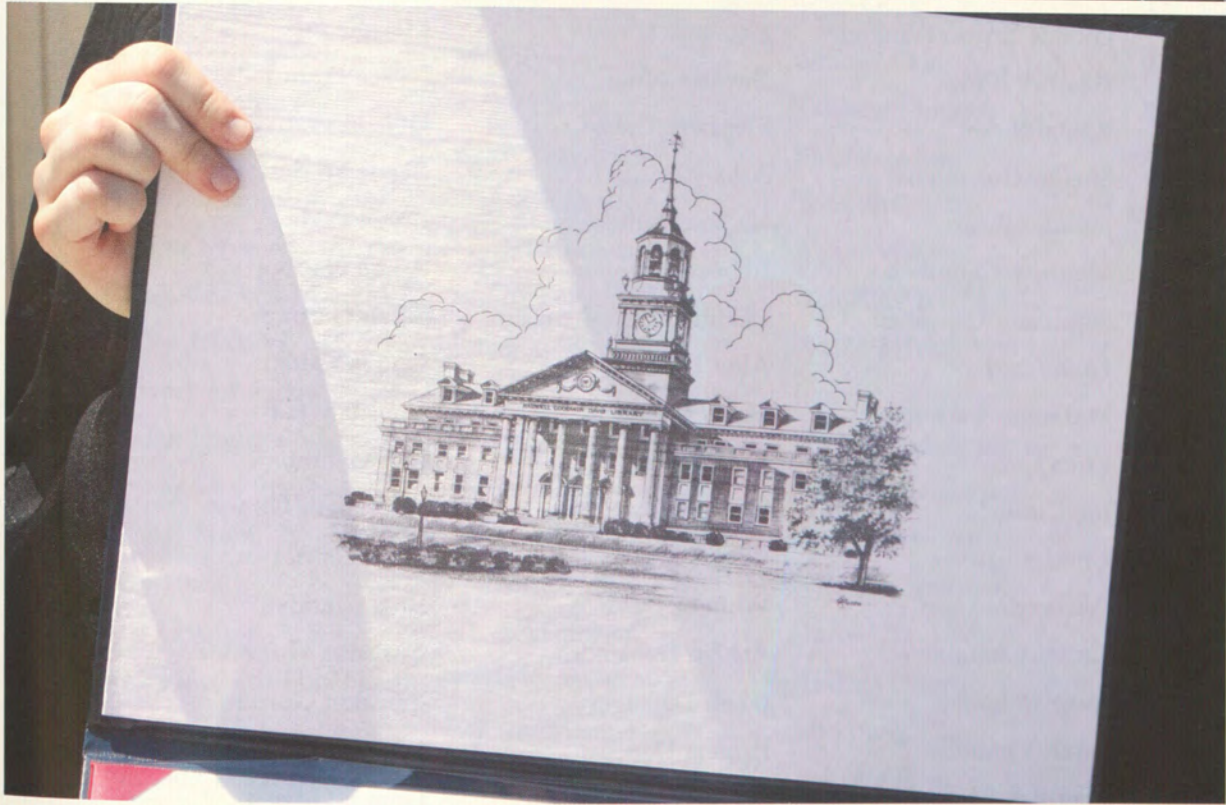
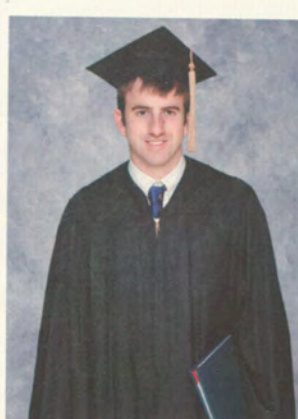














# Commencement

## May 15, 2010

Haley Aaron	Mark Brown	Joshua Crute	Caleb Foust
Caroline Abernathy	Porshia Brown-Franklin	Elizabeth Cuenin	Melanie Fox
Emily Laura Aiken	Heather Burke	Dayne Cutrell	Jessica Franey
Kathryn Albertsen	Kayla Burke	Elizabeth Dalziel	Donald Franklin
Ryan Anderson	Shelley Burroughs	Ashley Dance	Beebe Frederick
Cally Anderson	Jennifer Bush	Nathan Daniels	Bryan Friday
Thomas Archer	Matthew Campbell	Rebecca Daniels	Adam Gadberry
James Armstrong	Stephanie Campbell	Liudmila Darashenka	Sarah Gardner
Jennifer Austell	Lana Card	Alisa Dauro	Lauren Gatch
Carol Autry	Marianne Carlson	James Davidson	Courtney Gay
Alexander Ayris	Erica Carr	Amelia Davis	Lois Genter
Mary Caroline Barnhill	Joe Carter	Chelsea Davis	Mary Beth Gilbert
William Barrett	Charles Carver	Ellen Davis	Tulia Girvan
Amanda Barrs	Alexandra Case	Whitney Davis	Ross Glendye
Christine Barton	Carter Chambliss	Ashlyn Delianides	Christina Gonzalez
Erin Basden	Evan Chandlee	Jacob Dellinger	Brandon Gordan
Karisa Bassett	Sarah Chandler	Pamela Depetro	Jason Gossett
Cameron Bean	Jeremiah Chester	Shannon Dille	Lauren Gossett
Anna Bedsole	Chad Chitty	Rebecca Donaldson	Franklin Graves
Elizabeth Bennett	Sarah Clark	Jessica Donovan	Mitchell Greene
William Bennett	Mary Cleveland	Sam Douglas	Candice Griffith
John Benton	Lee Cochran	Joshua Driver	Jessica Gurley
Taylor Blalock	Megan Cockrum	Julie Durrance	Ryan Hagan
Lindsey Bollhoefer	Jonathan Coley	Kathleen Dwyer	Alan Halbrooks
Stephen Bolton	Thomas Collings	Carrie Edwards	Morgan Hall
Jordan Bondurant	Jordan Collins	Kathryn England	Hope Hamilton
Jessica Bonner	Kaitlin Conway	Micah Fallaw	Katherine Hammers
Emily Bowman	Brittany Cook	Abby Farmer	Benjamin Hankins
Parker Branch	Ellen Corman	Matt Fennell	Mary Hansen
Jessica Brannan	Whitney Cornutt	Nathan Fennell	Casey Harbin
Allison Breed	Rachel Corr	Amanda Fields	Ben Harding
Emma Breeden	Katherine Cotton	Natalie Fleming	Paula Harris
Kathryn Brock	Jeremy Cox	Ryan Ford	Kaylee Hayworth
Cedrick Brown	Andrew Crosson	Giles Fort	Lindsey Headley



Jordan Helms	Katherine King	Casey Medlock	Emily Ray
Sarah Hendrix	Emily King	Meredith Mendenhall	Graham Reaves
Mandy Hewitt	Mary Beth Klotz	Wayne Miller	Rachael Reeves
Lydia Hignite	Jacinda Koziara	Jesse Mitchell	Peyton Reeves
Jason Hill	Ashley Kraeling	Misha Mitchell	Johnna Rembert
Lori Hill	Jessica Kramer	Lavrle Mize	Chelsea Reynolds
Ellen Hill	Helen Lackey	Caroline Monroe	Stephen Rhea
Gardner Hobson	Sarah Lambert	Trey Montgomery	Amanda Rice
James Hodges	Mallory Lamons	Grace Moon	Quanecia Richardson
Chelsea Hoffman	Emily Larson	Takesha Morgan	Anna Claire Richie
Lindley Holder	Kristy Lawrence	Stephen Moss	Anna Claire Richie
Margaret Houston	Deborah LeCroy	Toni Motley	Jeffrey Richter
Lauren Howard	Mark Lewallyn	Adam Moxley	Rebecca Rigell
Charlotte Huckleberry	Emma Lewis	Dianella Mykitta	Sarah Rigsby
Jessica Hudson	Jonathan Londeen	Nicole Myrex	Jonathan Risner
Amanda Huggins	Holly Long	James Nagle	Carol Jobeth Robbins
Jordan Hughes	Susan Long	Jennifer Neighbors	Kris Roberts
Alexander Huguenard	Jonathan Lowery	Andrew Neuberger	Jessica Roden
Jeremy Hunt	Nathaniel Maddox	Daniel Newman	Rebecca Rodger
Sara Hunt	Catherine Magouyrk	Jonathan Newman	Taylor Rodick
Mary Huston	Mark Mandzen	Rachel Newman	Marcus Rodriguez
Ann Elizabeth Hutcheson	Kathryn Mann	Andrea Offord	Stephanie Royall
Bradley Isbell	Melissa Manuel	Mi Young Oh	Jamie Ruppert
Amanda Janell	Anna Martin	Ashley Oliver	Chelsea Rushing
Jonathan Jenkins	William Martin	Kathryn Ostrowski	Amanda Rypel
Feraldo Joffre	Holly Mason	Jessica Owens	Emma Schell
Allison Johns	Monica Maxwell	Anna Page	Rebecca Schmidtke
Danielle Johns	Caroline May	Courtney Palmer	Adam Schrimsher
Harris Johnson	Chadd Mays	Jacqueline Parsons	Alexandra Sconfienza
Argie Johnson	Jannell Mcconnell	Emily Paul	Holly Searcy
Stephen Johnson	Kaitlin Mcculley	Mitchell Payne	Sara Sears
Hannah Joiner	Rebecca Mccurry	Jobie Payton	Paul Selmon
Anna Jones	Margaret McDaris	Margaret Alison Peak	Farah Shackelford
Richard Jones	Matthew Mceniry	Joshua Perkins	Vishal Shah
Hayley Jordan	Molly McGuire	Nick Piazza	Andrew Sharpe
Chas Keithan	Caitlin Mckee	Grace Pohlman	Jimetrius Sharpe
Kandice Kelley	Adrienne McKinney	Warren C Pouncey	Lara Shatas
Bryan Kessler	Patrick Mclendon	Ashleigh Prato	Meredith Shaw
Tasha Kiel	Mamie McNiel	Diana Preoteasa	Sarah Sheehan
Caroline Kimrey	Amanda McPhail	Olympia Pritchett	Kimberly Shoemaker
James King	Brittany McShane	Jordon Puryear	Courtney Simpson



Susan Singletary  
 Rebecca Skinner  
 Emily Smith  
 Zachary Smith  
 Allison Smith  
 Kerenna Smith  
 Whitney Smith  
 Erica Smith  
 Mary Katherine Snider  
 Meagan Snow  
 Nicholas Sourvelis  
 Elizabeth Stallings  
 Emily Stansell  
 Kyle Stanton  
 Erica Stenstrom  
 Joshua Stiers  
 Victoria Stone  
 Michael Stone  
 Cathey Stoner  
 Christine Storey  
 Kathryn Straw  
 Rusty Swafford  
 Kylie Swyden  
 Alexandra Tate  
 Ashley Tate  
 Kayley Tatum  
 Michael Taunton  
 Christine Taylor  
 Emily Taylor  
 Thomas Taylor  
 Benjamin Telfair  
 James Thomas  
 Kaci Thomassie  
 Adam Thompson  
 Chelsea Thompson  
 Rebecca Tischler  
 Brittany Todd  
 Christine Todd  
 Melody Tomlinson  
 Blake Tommey  
 Diamonique Townsend

Jessica Van Ausdall  
 Joshua Vanfleteren  
 Mary Walker  
 L. Amanda Walker  
 Thomas Warren  
 Angela Warren  
 Taylor Webb  
 Melanie Webber  
 Aaron Weber  
 Paige Welch  
 Arngene Wells  
 April Weston  
 Kelsey White  
 Bradley Whited  
 Lauren Whittemore  
 Megan Wilderotter  
 Caroline Williams  
 Emily Williams  
 Paris Williams  
 Steven Williams  
 James Williams  
 Debra Wilson  
 Helen Woodring  
 Margaret Worthington  
 Cynthia Wozow  
 Emily Wright  
 John Wright  
 Taylor Wright  
 Amanda Yawn











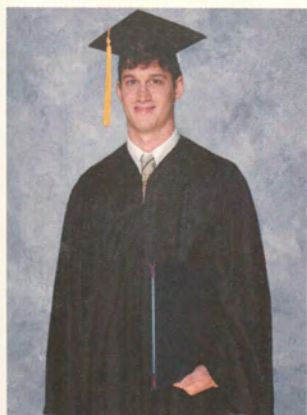








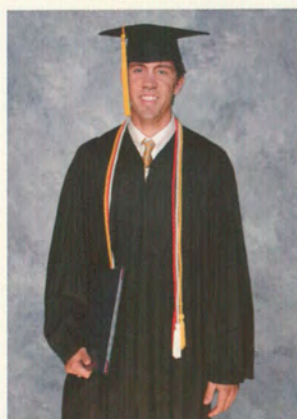
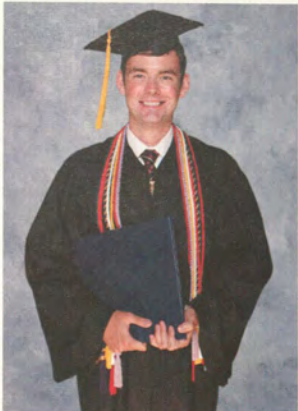
























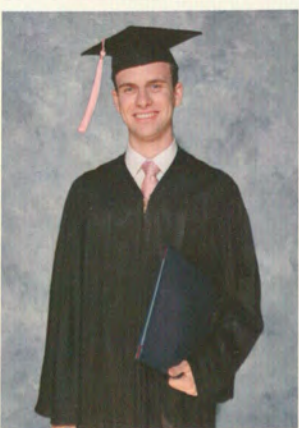




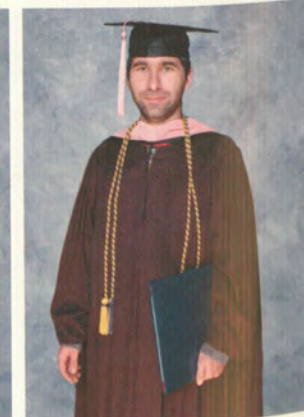
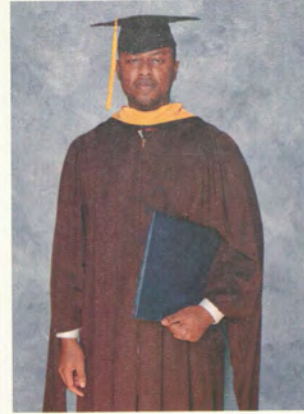
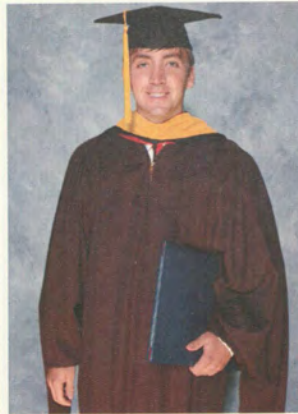




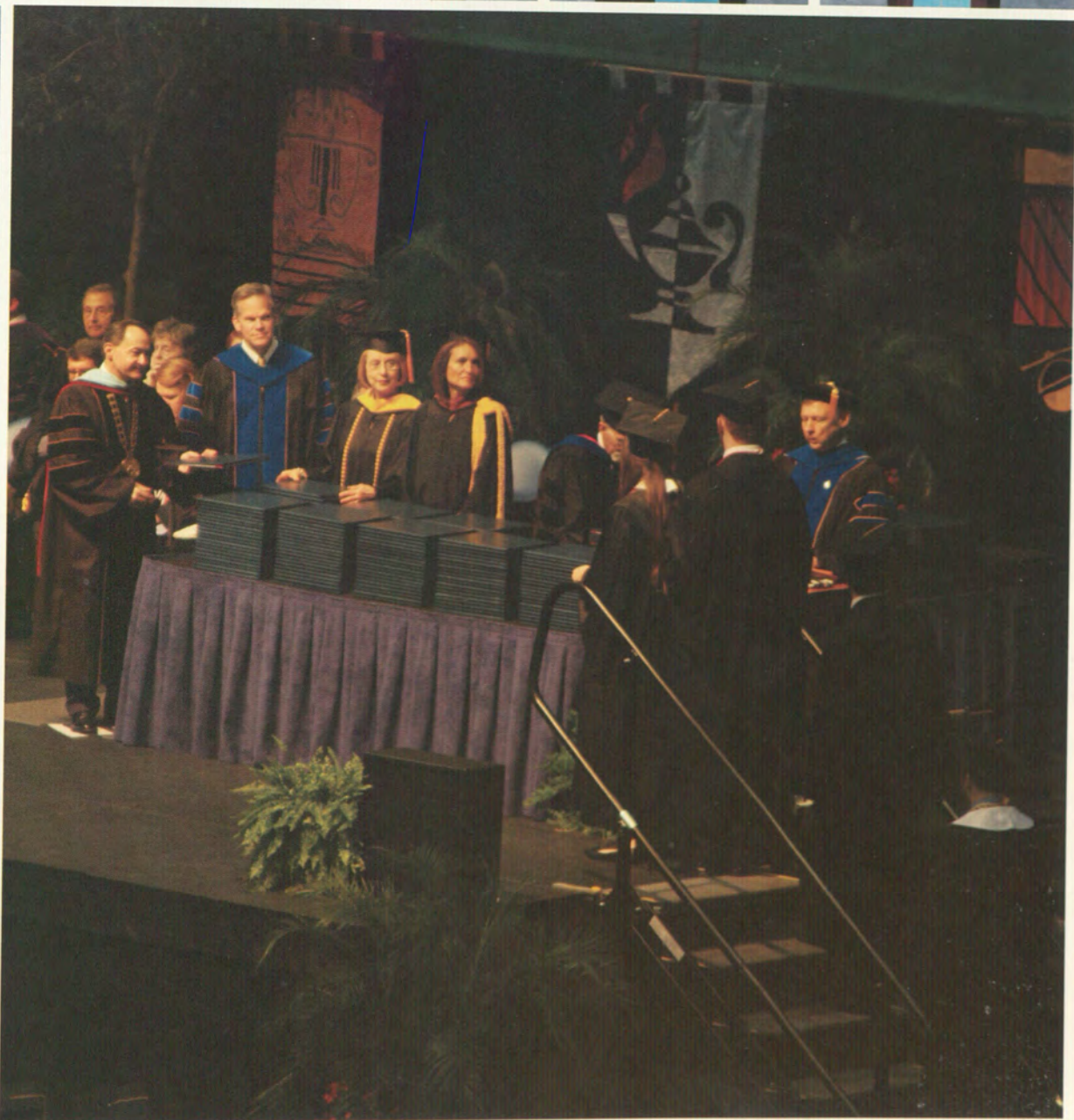








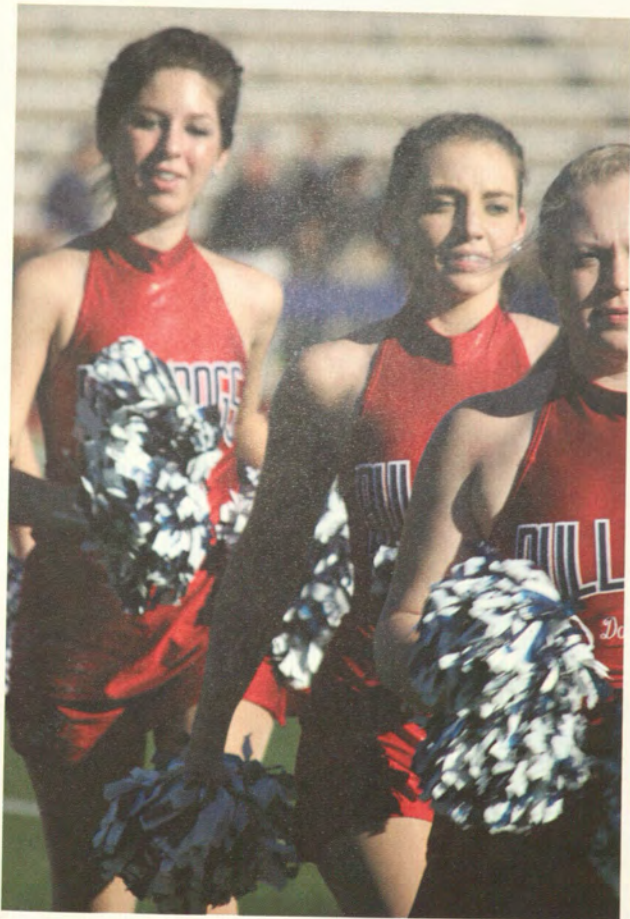














“The Samford *experience* is personal,  
shared, intellectual, physical, spiritual,  
social, immediate, transitional, and  
enduring. In 2010, each one of us  
contributed to it . . . and each one  
of us was touched by it. The task  
remains for us to use the Samford  
*experience* to bring hope to a world  
in need. Let it be!”

-Dr. Westmoreland











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